

MINUTES
WEST HARTFORD PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMISSION MEETING
Monday November 9th 2020 @ 7PM WebEx
Next Meeting: December 14, 2020

Board Members in attendance: Sandy Fry, Daniel Johnson, Jill Morawski, Denisse Gutierrez, Paul Hogan, Ken Livingston, Colin Gillespie

A quorum was held starting at 7:15pm

Town Staff in attendance: Helen Rubino-Turco

1. Call to order 7:02pm
2. A motion to approve the October minutes was made by Colin Gillespie, seconded by Jill Morawski.
 - a. Ken Livingston asked for a correction, to add his name to the list of commission members interested in meeting with town staff to discuss development of a new bicycle plan. With this change, the minutes were approved unanimously.
3. Old Business:
 - a. Sandy Fry spoke with Duane Martin and reported the following update on roadway projects
 - i. North Main Street Bridge work will continue through the winter. Construction is expected to switch to the east side of the bridge soon
 - ii. Regarding road diet
 1. The consultants have started studying data, Trout Brook, Main Street, and Mountain Road
 - iii. Fern Street bridge replacement requires a number of permits including inland wet land approvals which take some time
 - iv. Repaving of and striping of Park Rd East of Trout Brook Road is complete.
 - v. Duane has begun the report for annual Complete Streets
 - vi. Bicycle parking updates – Jill Morawski and Sandy Fry discussed follow up items requested by the Town. Jill noted, the requests for bicycle parking are not dependent on particular businesses rather location. Jill and Alan will look at priorities for bike parking locations and get back to the Commission. There was general sentiment that the town should do any outreach to businesses, not the commission.
 - vii. New Park Avenue road diet, design will be done by the Town engineering department
 - viii. Trout Brook Trail updates:
 1. The Town is working on agreement with OPM, and DEEP regulation for Phase 5, Fern to Farmington.
 2. Park Street to Jackson (Phase 3), design work is almost complete, being done by the Town, hopefully ready for review by year end 2020
 3. Phase 6 - Fern to Duffield – in process for design and development waiting on dependencies
 4. Phase 7 - Duffield to Asylum – in process
 - ix. Traffic Calming on Newport and Four Mile, the diverters have been redeployed. Town is studying the results to determine the best way to

achieve the goal of encouraging motorists to use the main arterials and not the side roads. The hope is to deploy a permanent solution next spring.

- x. West Hartford Center outdoor dining will end mid-November.
 - 1. The Farmington Avenue road will return to normal traffic pattern. Resident Ethan Frankel asked to continue the discussion, Colin Gillespie, Denisse Gutierrez agreed.
 - 2. Lasalle will remain 1 way NB north of Ellsworth and bike lanes will be installed.
 - xi. Farmington Ave Walden to Main Street, construction will start soon for a major water line replacement with end date in April 2021
 - xii. Mountain and Fern pedestrian signals are being added but not put in use until the sidewalk is complete
 - xiii. Survey as prelude to bicycle plan update – November 17th, 2020 meeting will be held with town staff and a subcommittee of the Commission.
- b. Update Mountain/Farm Ave intersection
 - 1. The Town will install new signage on the approaches that allow right on red "Turning traffic yield to pedestrian"
 - c. Planning and Zoning update – Sandy reported that she spoke with Todd Dumais to discuss the proposed development at New Britain Ave/ Berkshire. He explained that even though the zoning regs do not require bike parking, staff always asks about bicycle parking, both shortterm and longterm.
 - d. Discussion of next steps for Bicycle Plan. This will be discussed in the November 17 meeting with town staff..
 - e. Survey Committee report, an updated version will be developed prior to the discussion on Nov 17. That draft will be shared with town staff.
 - f. Bicycle Routes on Bike west Hartford web site. It was discussed the creation of sub-committee to look into bicycle routes online. Suggested the commission begin to develop a list of sub committees for implementation in the New Year. Scott Franklin of Bike west Hartford noted that there are several routes posted on the website, in addition to the orange, blue, and green signed routes.
 - g. Parking in Bike Lanes – David Beers, resident, still asked the police to issue more tickets to vehicles parked illegally in the bike lanes. He is not seeing the urgency. Sandy Fry will follow up with the Police for response and feedback. Paul Hogan echoed David Beers concern and asked the commission to look at ways to address the Town accountability for enforcement of protecting the bicycle infrastructure. Daniel Johnson, Paul Hogan, and David Beer
4. New Business
- a. November 23rd, 2020, New England Multi-Modal Summit, Ethan Frankel suggested that this would be a useful session for town staff and commission members.
 - b. CRCOG train the trainer Grant, to teach educators how to teach the students
 - i. Email sent to Town staff to submit
 - 1. Ask to follow up with Town Staff
5. Reports Town Staff Updates
- a. No updates
6. Bike West Hartford Inc
- a. The Bike West Hartford Inc can post routes on their website. They can be sent to Scott.

Meeting adjourned 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Johnson, Secretary and Board Member
West Hartford Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission