

MINUTES
WEST HARTFORD PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMISSION
VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING
Monday, February 8th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order, Attendance – Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM
 - a. Members present: Sandy Fry, Colin Gillespie, Denisse Gutierrez, Paul Hogan, Daniel Johnson, Ken Livingston, Jill Morawski, Ryan Nobrega.
 - b. Community members present: Ethan Frankel
 - c. Town Staff present: Ben Wenograd (town council member)
2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes – motion to approve last month's minutes raised at 7:06 PM, hearing no objections and given no corrections the minutes were approved
3. Old Business
 - a. Updates on roadway and trail projects: North Main Road Diet
 - i. First plan received from VHB Consultants, there may need to be a complete streets exception.
 - ii. Turn lane width recommendation is 14 ft, plan is to go with 12 ft turn lane and 10 ft travel lanes which only leaves 4 ft for shoulder.
 1. There would be 5 ft for shoulder in some parts, but not all of it.
 - iii. There will be a public info hearing, right now a draft concept has been presented to the town.
 - iv. Ken and Sandy both mentioned commission should be the design before the public meeting, this would be consistent with how they have done things.
 - v. Comment from Ethan:
 1. assumption was always 5 ft shoulders, that was all that was ever discussed in initial findings. Would like to be aware of these meetings.
 2. Additionally, does not remember any mention of middle lane being too narrow. In a meeting with Tony Cherolis from Hartford, there was a concern that drivers would use the middle turn lane as a passing lane on Wethersfield Ave. Does not see this being a problem for us on N Main due to N Main having more curves and hills than Wethersfield Ave in Hartford.
 - vi. Dan Johnson to request town share consultant plans with commission ahead of public info sessions.
 - b. Report on Survey – Screen Share with group
 - i. Typos fixed in real time by Ken, note at top of last page of questions was bolded and colored red to make clear to survey takers that this page of demographic questions was optional.
 - c. Bike Parking – will put in agenda for next meeting
 - d. Parking in Bike Lane Enforcement
 - i. Ben Wenograd mentioned that during a recent meeting the topic of enforcement of this issue came up. Enforcement was on hold but will start up again.
4. Reports

- a. Town staff updates
5. New Business:
- a. Discuss CTDOT Comprehensive Pedestrian Safety Strategy. – This was published a few days before commission meeting and most members did not have the chance to review ahead of time. Will be added to agenda for next meeting.
 - i. https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOT/documents/dcommunications/press_release/Comprehensive-Pedestrian-Safety-Strategy-January-2021.pdf
 - b. Top 5 priorities for the commission to focus on 2021
 - 1. Please be prepared to discuss this at the next meeting February
 - a. What comes to mind?
 - b. Do you want to be project lead?
 - c. What is the earliest valid goal to achieve within the priority (MVP)
6. Reports
- a. Update from Bike West Hartford Inc.
 - i. Ethan met last week with Matt Hart, Shari Cantor, landscape designer at American School for the Deaf (ASD). Memorial project for MaryEllen has grown bigger than just a bench.
 - ii. Center Streets still tentatively scheduled for end of August – who knows if it will happen. June Celebrate has already been canceled for 2021.
 - b. Update from Cycling Without Age – No update, Daniel Firestone not present.
7. Next meeting: MONDAY, March 8, 2021, 7:00 p.m. (Virtual Meeting)
8. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM