



Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

At 3:30 PM

Via ZOOM

MINUTES

Members Present: Ian Golding (Chair), RJ Turcotte (Vice Chair), Edwin Claflin, Michel Kremer, John Mynttinen, Joseph Topham, Laura Walters

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Mike Burns, Holly Backus

Others Present: Thomas Holt

1. Administrative Items

- a) Call to order
 - Chair called meeting to order at 3:33PM
- b) Establishment of a Quorum
 - The Chair declared a quorum present
- c) Approval of Agenda
 - Motion to approve by Michel K and seconded by RJ T
 - There was unanimous approval of the agenda by rollcall vote
- d) Approval of Minutes – September 21, 2023
 - Minutes were not included in meeting materials and will be approved at next meeting.

2. Action and Discussion

- a) Pleasant St and Williams Ln improvements – Discussion of Nantucket Historical Commission Comments
 - Holly B summarized the concerns of the Historical Commission (NHC) and some of the elements that would be important to preserve the historic character of this section of Pleasant St.
 - Mike B summarized a letter from Sam Phelan to requested a context sensitive approach to the Pleasant St corridor to preserve the character of the corridor. The NHC held an April 19 and May 17 meeting to discuss elements to preserve as part of the improvements and the anticipated next steps, which included conditions for each alternative under consideration for accommodating bicyclists and

pedestrians. Generally, the NHC suggested avoiding plastic materials and using locally accepted materials such as grass, Belgium block, sand, shell, and split rail.

- Edwin C asked about the speed limit of the area.
- Mike B confirmed it would be 25MPH.
- There was general discussion of bikes sharing the travel lanes with vehicles in the mid island and downtown areas with a 3-4 foot safe passing distance.
- There was general discussion of the alternatives that would either provide a sidewalk or other more accommodations for bicyclists.
- Michel K asked if the size of vehicles or the number of vehicles could be limited.
- Holly B responded with how those restrictions are difficult legally and practically.
- Laura W asked if the one-way could be piloted.
- Mike B responded that staff has a plan and strategy to potentially pilot the one-way alternative as part of roadway openings following their closure for sewer work in the upcoming winter and spring season. Traffic counting before and during the pilot would be scheduled to help evaluate alternative.
- Edwin C asked if the section of Pleasant St from 5 Corners to downtown would be part of future improvements.
- Mike B responded that there are no anticipated changes other than sidewalk improvements.
- There was general discussion of the need to improve the high school intersection.
- Holly B mentioned as soon as the NHC letter is provided that it will be shared with BPAC for review.

b) Bicycle Safety Campaign

- Joseph T left the meeting at 4:38PM.
- Mike B shared the Brain Bucket Nantucket sticker that will be given out this summer to encourage a safety culture and wearing bike helmets. E-bike class stickers were also shared, which is also to be distributed to spread understanding of the classification system and restrictions that allow class 1 and 2 e-bikes on paths.
- There was general discussion of further incentivizing or requiring the e-bike classification stickers and need for bike registration or plates for bicycles as a next step.
- Michel K and Thomas H both mentioned willingness to help distribute stickers.
- There was general discussion of parking restrictions, removing parking, or relocating parking to provide more sidewalk space for pedestrians, bicyclists, and restaurants goers.
- There was general discussion of e-bikes that can be have the pedal assist speed limit reprogramed.
- Mike B mentioned that there is no speed limit, rather a 20MPH design speed for paths, and noted rules and safe practices have been included in the visitor's guide.
- Edwin C mentioned an app that is used in other communities to report violations.
- There was general discussion of social media pages and other media devoted to highlight violations and sharing safe practices.
- There was general discussion of need to improve bicycle wayfinding in midisland.
- Edwin C mentioned vehicle detection for path users at crossings used on the cape.

3. Other Business

- a) Committee Comment
 - There was no additional Committee comment.
- b) Public Comment
 - No public comments.

4. Adjourn

- The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 4:52PM

Submitted by:
Mike Burns