



Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

At 3:30 PM

Via ZOOM

MINUTES

Members Present: Ian Golding (Chair, arrived at 3:36PM), RJ Turcotte (Vice Chair), Edwin Claflin, John Mynttinen, Joseph Topham, Laura Walters

Members Absent: Michel Kremer

Staff Present: Mike Burns

Others Present: Mary Bergman, Rita Carr, Eleanor Antonietti, Art Gasbarro

1. Administrative Items

- a) Call to order
 - Vice Chair called meeting to order at 3:33PM
- b) Establishment of a Quorum
 - The Chair declared a quorum present
- c) Approval of Agenda
 - Ian G arrived
 - There was unanimous approval of the agenda by rollcall vote
- d) Approval of Minutes – May 22, 2024
 - There was unanimous approval of the agenda by rollcall vote

2. Action and Discussion

- a) Pleasant St and Williams Ln improvements – Discussion of Nantucket Historical Commission
 - Mike B and Rita C summarized the NHC letter dated July 11, 2024 to T. Michael Burns that included comments on the options for accommodating a path. Option 1 would preserve two way traffic and align a path behind the existing trees, option 2 would include a one way traffic flow and repurpose the southbound lane for two way bicycle and pedestrian flow.
 - Joe T asked if option 3 would include removal of the trees, or if the option could include transplanting the existing trees.

- Rita C responded that transplanting would be preferred. The concern with some NHC members was that option 3 would have an aesthetic impact and appear to be a widening of the roadway. A grass buffer was preferred by a majority of NHC.
- There was general discussion of the options.
- Joseph T and Ian G noted a preference for option 3.
- Laura W noted a preference for a piloting of one way traffic and using option 1.
- Edwin C noted a preference of option 1 with a narrow pedestrian pathway with a concern of the impacts to the high school/4 Corners intersection while preserving the existing trees.
- Ian G noted that option 2 seems to be very impactful.
- Art G noted that a one way traffic flow would be impactful to the community and that removing encroachments would help traffic flow and better accommodate bicyclists.
- Ian G asked about the schedule of a pilot and removing encroachments.
- Mike B responded that a pilot has been discussed with other departments as occurring after sewer expansion work this winter in the spring, but there is no set timeframe for that work and therefore there is not set timeframe for the pilot.
- Ian G asked for a motion of pilot for option 2, request DPW to enforce encroachment along Pleasant St.
- Motion by RJ, seconded by Laura, to support the pilot as described in option 2.
- Edwin C had concerns for the 4 Corners intersection under the option 2 condition.
- RJ withdrew his motion.
- There was general discussion of traffic impacts due to planned sewer work.
- Joseph T made to request DPW enforce the encroachments along Pleasant St.
- The balance of the letter was continued to next month.

b) Bicycle Safety Campaign

i. Discussion of ebike and Bike Helmet promotions

- Mike B summarized how helmet and ebike stickers are being distributed.
- Joseph T mentioned there is a Bike and Safety Day sponsored by the Civic League where stickers are being distributed.
- There was general discussion of establishing a speed limit on paths.
- There was general discussion of the need for more bike training posting the rules of the road on paths.

i. Discussion of MGL Chapter 85 section 11B ¾

- Eleanor A mentioned the Land Bank has received some complaints about ebike usage on natural surface paths which has been difficult to enforce. EBikes are helpful from some users of trails for various reasons. New School, Lighthouse School, and NPS could be very helpful in sharing rules of the road.
- RJ T suggested that a sticker program that provided access for ebikes could be issued to help control use of trails, similar to the beach stickers.
- Laura W suggested that new signage may need to be used to help as a reminder.

3. Other Business

a) Committee Comment

- RJ T had a crash on Sparks Ave. involving a motorcycle at a driveway on June 19th. And suggested raised crossings for improving safety. He also suggested issuing a “hit kit” with instructions for what to do when in a crash.
- Edwin C had a crash on Polpis Rd due to poor drainage and slippery dirt due to construction. He suggested that the path be regularly swept and cleared.

b) Public Comment

- No public comments.

4. Adjourn

- The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 5:01PM

Submitted by:
Mike Burns