

BLOCK ISLAND SOUND BIKE COMMITTEE
DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Thursday November 20, 2025 4:00
OPEN MEETING TOWN HALL ANNEX CONFERENCE ROOM
4540 South County Trail
Charlestown, RI 02813

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Meeting was called to order by Melanie Champion at 4:04 pm

B. Roll Call:

I. Present: Melanie Champion, Janet Conte, Claire Dalidowitz, Phil Moreschi, Joan Twardy,

II. Absent: Lynn Varadian

II. Guests: David and Rosemary Smith (advocates for the Wm C. O'Neill Bike Path Narragansett extension and completion), Joan Pavlinsky, Bill Wilson

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES October 18, 2025

A. Motion to approve minutes by Phil Moreschi, second by Joan Twardy, all unanimously in favor

3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

A. Bill Wilson and Phil Moreschi are arranging a time to look for locations for signage. They will coordinate together.

4. COMMITTEE COMMENTS (general)

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Guests David and Rosemary Smith-advocates for the Wm. C. O'Neill Bikepath Narragansett extension and completion:

I. The Smiths explained that the Wm. C O'Neill bike path started in 1990 from Kingston Station to Narragansett along an old railroad track. Currently the path ends at the Narragansett Community Center, however the goal was to connect to the Narragansett town beach. There have been many different options offered, including a plan to go through Canonchet Farm near the South County Museum. Currently the continuation of the path moves through roadways or neighborhoods. 6 years ago, the plan was at an impasse and

currently there is a strong push to address the issue of continuing the path to the beach. The Narragansett Town Council is set to act on this by the end of the year. On December 1st the Town Council will deliberate in public on the various plans to extend the route. At the December 15th meeting they will select a route. Faith LaBossiere (past committee chair) has written a letter to suggest that the BISBC get involved. The objective is to provide a safe passage to connect the Wm. C. O'Neill bikeway to the Narragansett Town Beach.

II. Chairperson Melanie Champion advised that the BISBC needs to obtain permission from the Town Council of Charlestown (whose meeting is scheduled for December 8) to write a letter to the Town of Narragansett on behalf of the efforts to continue the Wm. C. O'Neill path to completion. If approved such a letter should be addressed to President Alex Menzies 25 5th Ave. Narragansett, RI.

III. A motion was made by Phil Moreschi to ask the Charlestown Town Council to authorize the BISBC to write a letter in support of the efforts, thereby urging the Narragansett Town Council to continue to completion the Wm. C. O'Neill bikeway project. And that the project to gain access to the Narragansett Town Beach is consistent with Rhode Island State Transportation statewide plan. It is the charge of the BISBC to coordinate and develop safe bikeways with other surrounding towns.

Claire Dalidowitz seconded the motion. All unanimously approved.

Melanie Champion will draft a letter to the Charlestown Town Council for delivery a week before the Dec. 8 meeting, then forward it to the Narragansett Town Council when completed.

No further discussion.

B. Bike Rodeo/AAA

I. Melanie Champion will reach out to AAA to obtain information and materials to consider a bike rodeo

C. Friends of BISBC

I. The objective being to obtain a current email list of contacts to advise of the committee activities. Faith LaBossiere has sent an email to her current contacts and Melanie Champion will await a response before creating a new email list

D. Keeper of the Maps

I. Melanie Champion will be the keeper of the maps

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update on KTP curve with RIDOT /Status of RTA application

I. Phil Moreschi reported that December will be the time of year to hear about the grant application. Phil has been emailing the State DOT for the federal program update and will contact Jeff Allen town administrator to help speed up the correspondence and a possible add to the Dec. 8 Council meeting addenda. If the grant for the K T pond curve is not approved the BISBC will review next steps at that point

B. Share the Road sign per RI General Law 31-15-18

I. Phil Moreschi has sent a concept drawing to a graphic artist for a workup.

C. see A above

D. 250th Celebration ride

I. Claire and Joan T. attended the town 250th committee meeting, gathered historical data, information and help from Pam Lyons.

II. Currently there are 15 stops outlined needed would be a head person and ending person during the ride. Joan Pavlinsky and Melanie Champion volunteered.

III. Dates scheduled are May 16, 2026, at 11:00 rain date May 17, starting at the mini Super small parking lot. Police support will be necessary as will an amplification system to help communicate the historical narrative. Both will be investigated

3. NEXT BISB MEETING December 18, 2025

4. ADJOURNMENT 5:00

Respectfully submitted

Janet Conte

Posted at Town Hall:	12/12/2025	SGP
Posted on Town's Website:	12/12/2025	SGP
Posted on SOS Website:	12/12/2025	SGP