

**BLOCK ISLAND SOUND BIKE COMMITTEE**  
**DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

Thursday October 16,2025 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 4:03 pm

**B.** Roll Call:

I. Present: Melanie Champion, Janet Conte, Claire Dalidowitz, Faith LaBossiere, Phil Moreschi, Joan Twardy, Lynn Varadian

II. Guests: Joan Pavlinsky, (Bill Wilson)

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** September 18, 2025

**A.** Motion to approve minutes and accept spelling corrections by Phil second by Lynn, abstaining Faith, all unanimously in favor

**3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**A.** Joan Pavlinsky highlighted a recent bike trip to Madison CT where she noticed lawn sign with meaningful messages to alert traffic, pedestrians and cyclists to safe roadway passage. she thought it could be a useful tool for spring/summer on Charlestown Beach Rd and East Beach Rd.

- signs can possibly be purchased through Vista Print

- consider expenditure/ budget

- possible public works allocation

- consideration the town right of way for sign placement

All present consider these to be a good thoughts for further investigation

**4. COMMITTEE COMMENTS (general)**

**A.** Director of Public works Mike DeCecco should be invited to attend committee meetings, Phil noted that he had sent Mike an email to coordinate the installation of approved signage including Bicycles have use of full lane and Old Post Rd and Matunuck School House Rd. chevrons and arrow painting have been approved for 2026 with the coordination of Bill Wilson past committee member.

**B.** Melanie stated that the Town Council unanimously approved the Westerly Train Sation resolution. Next it will be sent to US state senators

C. Claire has the idea of posting the “new” bicycle law on Facebook as a public reminder, sights considered were Charlestown Wire, South County Tidings, or Next Door. May is **Bike Safety Month**, Phil will consider writing something summarize and to post to Facebook.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Committee re-organization:**

I. Faith LaBossiere submitted her resignation as Chairperson. Joan Pavlinsky has applied for membership on the committee. Melanie Champion has been nominated by Phil Moreschi for Chairperson with Lynn Varadian second. all unanimously approved noting that she has big shoes to fill and tributes to Faith’s leadership.

II. Vice chairperson is now vacant and a nomination by Melanie for Claire Dalidowidz to hold the position and was seconded by Lynn Varadian. All unanimously approved.

### **B. Approval of the 2026 Meeting Schedule**

I. Some corrections to the schedule need to be made, dates, location of meeting. Motion to approve with corrections by Phil second by Claire

### **C. Topics/plans for the future BISBC activities**

I. Faith thinks considering raising the profile for community engagement for Bicycle safety infrastructure as referenced in the 2050 long range RI transportation plan can be a goal for committee work. The State says it wants it but it is long overdue. The plan shows 5 signal crossing/or under/ or overpasses starting in Westerly, 2 at Ninigret, and at Crossmills and Rt 1. The Committee can help move these items forward. Phil identified that small steps have been taken and past efforts have progressed. Lynn expressed difficulties even with walking. The leadership is in place (Colby O’Hanley coordinator for DOT).

II. Discussion included future local community/family engagement for the 2 Ninigret Park bike trails, contacting AAA regarding bike rodeo. Lynn will contact representative from AAA, Melanie will add ideas to next agenda.

III. consider a community bike ride event that might include “Be Fit” trail

## **6. OLD BUSINESS**

A. bike ride schedule for the 250 Celebration draft was presented, continuing to reach out to Pam Lyons (historian) to fill in gaps. all committee members encourage Claire and Joan T to continue investigations and stopping points along the route. Also to consider adding flyers to rental packets for summer visitors. Motion by Phil second by Melanie to approve the draft of the route for the 250 Celebration

- B.** Update on KTP curve with RIDOT *tabled because of time*
- C.** Share the Road sign per RI General Law 31-15-18 *tabled because of time*
  - D.** Status of RTA application *tabled because of time*

**7. NEXT BISB MEETING** November 20, 2025

**8. ADJOURNMENT 5:05**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Janet Conte**