

BLOCK ISLAND SOUND BIKEWAY COMMITTEE  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024 3:00 PM  
OPEN MEETING- TOWN HALL- COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
4540 South County Trail  
Charlestown, RI 02813

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Melanie Champion, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting was called to order at 3:03 PM
- B. Roll Call
  - 1. Present
    - a) *Lynn Varadian*
    - b) *Melanie Champion*
    - c) *Phil Moreschi*
    - d) *Bill Wilson*
  - 2. Not present:
    - a) *Faith Labossiere*

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023 3:00 PM

- A. Motion made by Phil Moreschi to Approve Minutes as provided
- B. 2<sup>nd</sup> Bill Wilson
- C. Discussion
- D. Unanimous approval

3. COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

- A. No public comments.

4. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

- B. No comments.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Review Introductory Letter to Narragansett Tribal Council
  - 1. Suggested edits were made for consideration.
- B. Report on Safe Streets for All Grant opportunities
  - 1. Grant funding on the Town level. Melanie listened to a webinar and the takeaway is that they have a well developed website that describes grant eligibility. Acronym of SS4A, a Federal Department of Transportation grant program. Need project plans developed before applicants seek grants. Some communities in RI have received grants. Melanie will forward the link to committee members.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- A. “Feasibility Investigation For Bike & Pedestrian Safety Improvements For Charlestown Beach Road” update on RFP
  - 1. No proposals received! Steve McAndless to report to Town Council to see how they want to proceed, whether advertising again, or selecting a consultant and negotiating under the MPA.
- B. Contact with Senator Gu and Representative Spears
  - 1 Share Introductory Letter to Narragansett Tribal Council

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- a. Both interested but very busy. Will reach out again to see if they have time to attend a BISBC meeting in the future.

C. Report RIDOT Signage Coastal Route-BI Sound Bikeway

1. Coordinating with DOT on the Bicycle Route Suitability Report, and the DOT has offered to collect the additional required traffic information, while the committee will collect the field observation of drive cuts.
2. The DOT indicates that they can collect the necessary traffic information and will perform the necessary analyses within 4 months of the formal request from the Town.
3. The formal request can simply be the return of their e-mail by the town engineer, town manager or the town planner.
4. We propose sending an e-mail to the Town Council bringing them up to date with our research, and asking them to authorize the request of DOT;s assistance.

- a. Motion made by Lynn Varadian for: Approve the communication to be sent to President Carney to request RIDOT to gather additional information for evaluation of installation of bicycle route signage on the Old Post Road.
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Wilson
- c. Discussion
- d. Unanimous Approval

D. May Is Bike Month Ride

1. Date May 4 Flyer – Coordinate with the Parks & Recreation Commission
2. Advertise through- Breachway Bikers, Charlestown Land Trust, Parks and Recreation Commission, Facebook, Newspapers, others- sample promotional piece

7. NEXT BISB MEETING

- A. April 18, 2024 3:00 Town Hall

8. ADJOURNMENT

- A. The Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:09.