

BLOCK ISLAND SOUND BIKEWAY COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 16 2024 3:00
OPEN MEETING- TOWN HALL- COUNCIL CHAMBERS
4540 South County Trail
Charlestown, RI 02813

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM
- B. Roll Call:
 - Present:
Faith LaBossiere
Melanie Champion
Lynn Varadian
Bill Willson
 - Absent:
Phil Moreschi

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024 AND APRIL 18, 2024

- A. The minutes of March 21, 2024 were approved with the correction of the spelling of Faith LaBossiere's and Steve McCandless' last names. Motion to approve: Lynn; 2nd: Bill. Unanimous approval.
- B. The minutes of April 18, 2024 were approved with the correction of the spelling of Steve McCandless' last name. Motion to approve: Bill; 2nd: Lynn. Unanimous approval.

3. COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

- A. Report from South Kingstown BPAC: Joe Damon arrived at 3:10 PM and gave a brief report on the April meeting of the South Kingstown BPAC. He stated that they were just getting reorganized and that there was no discussion of the Matunuck Schoolhouse Rd. route. Faith stated that she may attend the May meeting.

4. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

- A. Report on relaunch of Paths to Progress meeting 5/15/24: Faith and Melanie attended. There was not a large cycling community presence at the meeting. There was a discussion on different community grants that are available for towns to apply for. There was also a discussion on RI House Bill 7918, the Bicycle Mobility Plan, which is currently being held for further study. The attendees were encouraged to contact their State Senators and Representatives to support the bill.
- B. Report on May 4 community bike ride: Faith reported that the ride was a success, with 16 riders in attendance. The committee discussed possibly hosting another ride in the Fall.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Melina-Hyland Plan 2002: The committee looked at plans that were the work product of the Melina-Hyland group in 2002. This plan was a vision for the "Village Center", that included among other things, bike paths, and a raised pathway through the White Cedar Swamp. Faith will monitor this item for any further developments.
- B. Consider requesting BISB Ad Hoc Committee be a standing committee: the committee decided that no action will be taken at this time.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Signage Coastal Bike route for Rt. 1A Charlestown-Traffic Study: no updates at this time. Awaiting Eric Weiss replacement at RIDOT.
- B. Town Council approval of letter to Narragansett Tribal Council: The TC approved the letter. The Town Administrator will send the letter to the Tribal Chief Sachem.
- C. Contact with Sen. Gu and Rep. Spears: Lynn will revise the draft letter to them with the request to send our agenda, and invite them to a forthcoming meeting.

7. NEXT BISB MEETING

- A. June 20, 2024 3:00PM at the Town Hall

8. ADJOURNMENT

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Champion