

Bicycle Pathway Ad Hoc Committee
Final Minutes 11/19/2014
Town Council Chambers
Charlestown Town Hall 4540 South County Trail Charlestown, RI

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Faith LaBossiere. Richard Horstman motioned to accept the minutes from the 10/15/2014 meeting and Jen Hodshon seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present at the meeting were Faith LaBossiere, Richard Horstmann, Annie Campbell, Jennifer Demirs, Jennifer Hodshon, Jonathan Hammett , Pat Lyons and Sherry Drude. Absent were Bob Carlson, Nora Bradley
Also present Lori Kollitides and guests Rosemary and David Smith.

3. COMMUNICATION:

- a. Rosemary and David Smith from the Narragansett Pathway Committee shared their passionate story of the task of completing the William O'Neil Bikepath which started phase 1 in 1981. This trail for Phase I , Phase II, and Phase III pretty much followed the old rail to trails. The pathway committee has been trying to finish the last 1 plus miles since 2009 (no rail trails in this area).
Three proposals have been sent to the state for approval and they are hoping in January that they will be able to bring a final proposal to the town. Highlights from David's talk were lack of support from their town council. They are not a Ad Hock Committee and feel their hands are tied with constantly going back and forth between the town and the state. DOT has final decision but the town has to approve all recommendations.
- b. David encouraged us to reach out to all the stake holders like Director Lewis, Salt Pond Collision, CRMC, DEM, Fish and Wildlife, Narragansett Indian Council, various Historical Societies, Army Corp of Engineers, Coastal and EPA
- c. Rosemary added that the team needs a strong secretary for the committee along with a map maker to do GIS maps, photographer, power point presenter, a good writer and one spokes person to communicate with Town Council. She suggested you make the State Representative your new best friend along with the liaison in the town.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPORT:

Dick Horstman

- a. spoke with Alan Arsenault. Alan shared in a handout the Bikeway Facility Classifications. Dick reported he was very negative and especially in bikeways on the beach roads. He suggested more signage needed for safety.
- b. Also discussed is a pending meeting with Parks and Recreation regarding a new pathway to happen at Ninigret Park. #####Dick will follow up at the December meeting.

Faith LaBossiere

- a. shared two old discs that contained old studies done on bike pathways. One being done prior to lights on Route 1 and the other in 2007. She suggest that we all look at these for further background information.
- b. Faith also went to a meeting with the Environmental Council Meeting with DOT Michael Lewis. There was much discussion about bike pathways and talk about a potential study for Washington County for Bikeways and looking at Newport 's Road Program
- c. Faith also reported following up with Bradford Associates and Sara Bradshaw will make herself available to the committee at any time.
- d. Conversation with William Murray Town Planner.
 1. He suggested to get on the "TIP" list for funding They have a priority list and need to know there is community support. The funds are funded 80% Federal and 20% State.
 2. Shared that routine repair of road/path is done by state
 3. Mowing is done by Park and Rec
 4. Further bike spurs are planned off the William O'Neil path
 5. People will donate land for easements
- e. Discussion regarding the ethics committee meeting and how this impacted the committee and the open meeting law.

LORI KOLLITIES

met with Michael DeLuca to find out about the Narragansett Feasibility Study which she obtained and handed to Faith. She shared that Michael would be an excellent resource for information on fund raising and cost of hiring an engineer.

JEN HODSHON###

Shared that she is trying to make contact with DEM to see who holds the easement to White Cedar Swamp. She will continue to do research. She also voiced her opinion that this area might be a good place to start our path.

PAT LYONS####

- a. Discussion about what will happen with the old fire department and how that parking lot could be used as a trail head. Pat agreed to track down this information.
- b. will contact Steve McCandless regarding what he could do for us in map making
- c. will make Blake Filippi newly elected State Representative his new best friend and try to connect with Elaine Morgan newly elected District 34 State Senator

JEN DEMIRS ####

- a. Will reach out to Blue Cross Healthy Lifestyles
- b. South County Hospital
- c. CVS Foundation

JONATHAN Hammett####

- a. Will meet with Pat & Stephen McCandless
- b. Will discuss with Jay Primiano, Director of Parks and Recreation, the interest in pathways north of Rt. 1

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. All members of Ad Hoc Committee need to be reappointed in December with new Town Council
- b. Discussion about adding new people to the Committee
- c. Need 2015 budget###research by everyone so we can have an accurate figure to make a budget like town wide mailings, ink cartridges, membership in biking associations, consultant fees, mapping cost, professional photographer and blog/facebook.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Continue doing research through DOT, RI BIKE or other cycling organizations
- b. Letter from new Town Council supporting this Ad Hoc Committee
- c. Familiarize ourselves with the 2007 Bike survey and get out and look at land/roads/paths

7.AGENDA ITEMS contact Faith with anything you would like to add to the agenda by 12/10/2014

8.NEXT MEETING 12/17/2014 7pm

9.ADJOURN 8:55PM

Motion to adjourn made by Pat Lyons and seconded by Dick Horstmann