

Minutes:

Fairhaven Bike Path Committee

September 20, 2012

Attendance: Mark Badwey, Robert Espindola, Nancy Greene, Kenneth Pottel, Kathleen Sturtevant, Julianne Kelly, Matthew Coes, Peter DeTerra, William Roth, Jr., Rene J. Fleurent, Jr.

- August meeting minutes approved
- Connecting to West Island- choices- (sharrows, separated bike path, painted bike lane, signage)-regarding safety: Rene spoke with Adam from SRPEDD-studies have shown that bike lanes do not decrease vehicle safety-there is room for 2-11 foot vehicle lanes and 2- 5 foot bike lanes on most of the neck road-discussed if parking will be allowed if bike lanes are on the road-Ken will ask the police chief- discussed sharrows to Orchard St which would hopefully encourage people to use the bike loop and then striped bike lanes -SRPEDD will be asked to do schematic of Sciticut Neck Road(where sharrows are needed and where bike lanes can be striped)-Bill will communicate with BPW and Police as needed
- Bike Committee Goals-Bill suggested that we start small-expose public gradually –increase awareness-gather support-will ask Adam from SRPEDD what the standards are for spacing between signs-complete CPC application –due date- November 9th-(Matt will fill out application)-will ask for “share the road signs” on Sciticut Neck Road, New Boston Road, Alden Road, Main St and Adams St-also consider Green St
- Survey- Bill doesn’t think CPC funds can be used for survey-decision made to place survey on hold at this time- possibly reconsider at a later date
- Public Meeting- do not need to have at this time-possibly reconsider at a later date
- Connect existing bike path with Wood School-town-owned land with exception of small piece-question if land would be donated to town by owner-Ken will investigate
- Julianne discussed with Adam from SRPEDD and Tim Cohen from MASS DOT-connecting Fairhaven to New Bedford-there will be a bike lane leading from south end of New Bedford up ramp to Fairhaven Bridge-will need to walk bikes down stairs when going from Fairhaven to New Bedford-possible to have addition to stairs that would allow bikes to go down without being carried-will ask if that can be added to stairs-discussed bike path on Fairhaven Bridge –Julianne will write letter for Ken to sign from our group to SRPEDD and MASSDOT requesting path/stripping on bridge, Julianne will also ask New Bedford to write letter, other towns should write letters as well
- Kathy spoke with BPW superintendent regarding Sciticut Neck Road Crossing and he is supportive- Bill has price for paint for crossing- Kathy will ask BPW superintendent if the BPW would paint the crossing if we purchased the paint-West Island-Balsam Road has a sign that is being used to slow down traffic where walkers cross road to enter beach-will get price for similar sign that could be placed in the center of the neck crossing to slow down traffic and make them aware of possible bikers, etc. that may be crossing the neck road
- Fundraising- state ethics commission reports that municipal and “special” municipal employees cannot be involved with fundraising as part of a town committee
- Riverwalk- Bill reported that it is a 10-20 year project- in the study phase presently-Fairhaven piece will primarily involve striping and signage
- Mark spoke with **Yesteryear** Cyclery-they will provide list of avid bikers that may be interested in our group and activities and possibly “Friends” group
- Account-BPW has control of account-Rene will draft letter with rules for how account can be used and will ask BPW to approve
- Next meeting-Thursday, October 25, 2012- Town Hall-7 p.m.