

Bikeway Committee Minutes
December 18, 2014

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Attendance: Ken Pottel, Mat Coes, Joseph Mello Jr., Gary Lavalette, Jeff Sullivan, Lois Callahan, Rene J Fleurent Jr., Bob Espindola

Minutes for 10/16/14 approved

Bob Espindola described the Complete Streets Program. A state funded initiative that has allocated 50,000,000 dollars available for communities to support construction of pedestrian and bike friendly roadways. Communities can get certified by meeting certain guidelines which would increase likelihood of obtaining grant money from Complete Streets Program. Discussion of the need for a town policy as part of this process. Bob and Mat will explore further.

Bob Espindola shared information about SCBA which recently received a \$2,450.00 dollar grant from the Narragansett Wheelmen group as well as \$1,000.00 from a bank. SCBA now has nonprofit status. Discussion of the recent clearing of a path in the Nasketucket Conservation Area.

Mat Coes gave update on the Bike Bus. He was interviewed by WCAI public radio about the Bike Bus program. Mass DOT has acknowledgement on their website of Fairhaven's successful Bike Bus. Safe Routes to School Program is using Fairhaven's Bike Bus as a case study to be used by other communities to develop similar programs.

Discussion of bike path Spring Clean up. Rene Fleurent suggested inviting local scout troops to "adopt" sections of the path to clean and maintain as part of their community service. Rene will contact the scout troops about this idea.

Ken will follow up with DPW about the status of installation of the Sconticut Neck Crossing Signal. Ken further shared that CPA agreed to fund directional and safety signs but not the wooden signs at the ends of the bike path and concrete needed to install the signs will not be included. Ken will talk to DPW about concrete. It was suggested that the Fairhaven Improvement Association might be willing to fund the wooden signs. Ken will follow up on this with the association.

A decision was made to hold a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser again this year. Mid April was suggested as timeframe with tickets to be priced at \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. It was suggested that when selling tickets this year we will offer the option of making a donation instead of buying a ticket for those not wanting to attend the dinner. This will hopefully result in a more accurate head count and ability to sell more tickets. Ken will talk to Gail Isakson about the date.

A request by Mat Coes for purchasing containers for event materials was approved not to exceed \$25.00.

A discussion about the need for an e-bike policy for bike path use resulted in decision to not address the issue now but to continue to discuss.

Mat Coes shared information about the Health Fair saying it was very successful. Mat suggested coming up with an activity that would draw people to the Bikeway table.

Mat Coes was approved to Chair the February and March Bikeway Committee meetings as both Chair Ken Pottel and Vice-Chair Jeff Sullivan will be away for those two months.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Callahan