

## Hanover Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee Meeting Draft Minutes of February 6, 2014

**Present:** Barbara McIlroy, Dave Dostal, Mike Evans, Doug Deatt, Hugh Mellert, Athos Rassias, Carol Wiengiest, Scot Drysdale, Joanna Whitcomb, Carolyn Radisch & guest: Susan Edwards (from Woodmore Rd)

### Action Items:

- Dave will contact Vicki Smith to ask to be included in the PB emails for the PB agenda
- Budget Hearings are scheduled for Feb 25 & 26 and March 4<sup>th</sup> (Athos to let HBPC know which meeting we should attend)
- UVLSRPC bike/ped funding workshop Mar 20 in Concord
- Joanna will distribute the Bike Share feasibility report electronically to the committee

Quick announcements: Successful meeting with Peter K (more detail in items below.)

1. Minutes from the January 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting were reviewed and approved. Interesting note: Bedford, MA reached out to us for help getting their master plan started.
2. Dave kicked-off the meeting with old business.

The 1<sup>st</sup> item was the December letter sent to the Selectboard requesting funds for biking and walking from the Parking Fund. Athos reviewed the key elements of the letter and said he would raise it again during the appropriate budget hearings and will let us know when we should attend. Budget hearings begin at 5 pm at the town office 1<sup>st</sup> one is on Feb. 25, with Parking on Feb. 26 and Public Works on Feb 27. March 4<sup>th</sup> is the re-cap and finalizing of the annual budget. Athos said that the budget helps set priorities for the next 5 to 10 years.

Doug noted that we have a great relationship with the Selectboard and Police Dept. but we don't have the same relationship with the Planning Board. Is there any way we can enhance that relationship so we're more informed about applications? We agree that we could take a more active role in watching the PB agenda, request notification and invite PB members to our monthly meeting, if there's a topic that would be of particular interest to the Board. Athos noted that this committee is highly regarded and greatly appreciated. Several members reminded Doug that Judith Esmay (PB chair) has attended HBPC meetings, when invited and Vicki Smith has included the HBPC in the staff review meetings on Monday afternoon in the past. At this time, there are not a lot of applications in the PB queue.

It would be great to have more input at the intersections and learn more about what's coming up in the DPW budget. Are there grant opportunities? Is there a way to do everything at once? Do we ask for a bond? There's a ton of materials for pedestrians in the Master Plan.

3. Ray School Renovation Application: Bike/ped voices have entered the conversation. A meeting specifically to address these concerns is planned for February 14 at 4 pm. Susan Edwards presented information about the Woodmore Trail which connects Woodmore and the

Ray School. It could have a sign to enhance but in general it's not an issue. There are more than 40 kids in that neighborhood. The proposed renovation needs to encourage and enhance walking and biking. It's a connection between a town lot and the school property. It was agreed that the new site plan must not create barriers but enhance walking and biking connections for students, staff, faculty and neighbors.

A number of questions were raised:

- Has the building committee and its consultants considered the unintended consequences of the proposed design?
- Does it limit opportunities or create them?
- Is the design encouraging more driving?
- Is there a legitimate need to increase parking, if there are no parking restrictions on Reservoir Road and there's a big parking lot at DCCC and up the street @ the rugby facility.

It's a typical situation where it seems like you can build your way out of the situation. However, as all transportation planners/engineers know - you can't build your way out of congestion. And it's a waste of money to try...

4. January 9<sup>th</sup> Sidewalk – Dave, Doug & Carolyn met with Peter to discuss the Pedestrian Policy. Pete had a number of good suggestions. There was a second meeting with Pete Kulbacki, Doug & Carolyn. Doug shared a shopping list of ped and bike improvements. Pete agreed to have ORW work on the Lyme Road MUP and South Main Street's upcoming utility undergrounding work on Rt. 10. Peter has authorized Carolyn to study options and will share the utility's proposal with us as soon as it reaches him.
5. Coop renovation is upcoming. ORW is working for the Coop. They would like to enhance walking and biking for the new addition. Hope is to add tree line, covered bike racks on South Park Street as well as possibly enhancing walking and biking connections to Thompson parking lot on the east side of the building between the fields and private residences/businesses along South Park. Seems like it's Dartmouth's property – Carolyn was going to send a request to Dartmouth to consider the improvements.
6. Upcoming events, new business
  - Postponed items, but discuss if time is available:
  - Greensboro Rd signal status. Can we bug DOT to turn the camera hardware back on?
  - Thermoplastic sharrows on Leb and Park Sts (wait until spring?)
  - Bike/skateboard stencils on Main St status (waiting for spring)
7. **Next Meeting is 4:00 to 6:00 on Thursday, March 6th at the Howe Library**

Respectfully submitted, Joanna Whitcomb