



Orleans Bike and Walkways Committee



Judith Weil, Chairperson, Jim Demaree, Vice Chairperson, Anne Carron, Secretary
Patricia Bradley, Kevin Higgins, Alison Flynn, Joseph Haddad, Jon Fuller, Selectman Liaison

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September 21, 2009

The September 21, 2009 meeting was called to order by Chairperson Judi Weil at 4:00 PM.

Members:

Present: Judi Weil, Chairperson, Jim Demaree, Vice-Chairman, Anne Carron, Secretary, Patricia Bradley, Alison Flynn, Joe Haddad.

Absent: Kevin Higgins.

Guests: Jon Fuller, Selectman Liaison, Residents, Sherrill Smith, Gail Meyers-Lavin, William Rangnow.

Public Comment:

Mr. Sherrill Smith, a 25-year resident of Locust Road, came before the committee to express deep concern about the bike trail at the intersection of Locust and Canal Road. He commented that the section became very dangerous years ago, and the basic problem is that there are 2 roads coming up, at a rather steep angle, from either sides of Canal Rd. entering Locust Rd, and the visibility is very bad from all sides. Mr. Smith contacted our Highway Dept. Manager, Mr. Budnick, who spent a long time looking over the situation and indicated he would look into the situation more closely and see what can be done. Mr. Smith has tried to remove the brush along the sides of the road to improve visibility.

Pat Bradley asked Mr. Smith if any of the accidents he witnessed created personal injuries to bicyclists, or if the police were notified, and Mr. Smith indicated most of the accidents were, fortunately, of minor consequence or that the bicyclists quickly got up. Pat also asked Mr. Smith if he could ascertain whether the bicyclists dismounted when arriving at the intersection, and he seemed to indicate most did not.

Mr. Smith concluded his comments by stating he just wanted the committee to be aware of this dangerous situation and any help towards resolving this dangerous intersection would benefit all.

Minutes:

The minutes of the July 6th meeting were reviewed, corrected, and approved, 6-0-0.

Review and Update Action Items:

119: International Worker Training/Chamber of Commerce:

Jim has been out of town recently so he has not yet had time to follow-up with Stop and Shop or Shaw's to see how they've done this summer, but he hopes to accomplish this shortly. Jim and Joe are in contact with Mary Corr from the Chamber of Commerce, also.

Ms. Meyers-Lavin, Program Coordinator for Summer Host International Workers, asked Jim to review for her just what he does with Stop and Shop and Shaw's so that she will not crossover or duplicate his efforts, and so that they may learn from each other, with regard to the International Workers and the local businesses.

Ms. Meyers-Lavin indicated she was thinking about writing a grant for helmets, locks, chains, and lights, but because everything is "ad-hoc" now, next year she hopes to make it more formal.

Mr. Rangnow commented he collected 37+ bikes (all donated), had them inspected and repaired (by a volunteer), and rented them out for an arbitrary figure of \$12.00. The fee covered the cost of the parts to fix the bikes.

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TOWN CLERKS OFFICE
Judy Weil

and at the end of the summer, Mr. Rangnow had about \$56.00 left which he gave to the gentleman who repaired the bikes.

Mr. Rangnow transacts all of this from his home at Orleans Retirement Center, including some abbreviated, basic lessons in bicycle riding! He said approximately 23 bikes have been returned, but that things have got to change next year. He estimates they may need about 80 bikes next year and he's hoping our committee can help find more bikes.

Ms. Meyers-Lavin said they had 43 houses in Orleans this year, usually 2 students in each house; sometimes 1. She said they are going to be in 6 towns next year. Judi asked what condition the bikes were in after the summer, and Mr. Rangnow replied that they were in pretty good condition (the average age of the bikes was 30 years old). There was discussion among all about what route to take with regards to having the workers pay for their helmets, chains, etc., to ensure a sense of responsibility among them.

Ms. Meyers-Lavin is basically asking for communication between our committee and her group in order that we may all help the International Workers during their temporary stays.

Ms. Meyers-Lavin also requested about 50 of our brochures, Bike Safety/Mass Laws, for next year. And, as a closing FYI, she mentioned The State Department found out about their program, (and there is no other host program like this anywhere) to host J-1 Workers, and they want to come to town to do a community forum for businesses and the community to raise awareness of the cultural aspects, etc. of these workers.

115: South Orleans Feasibility Trail Study:

Judi opened by stating she would like the committee to discuss the issue, review it, and finalize everything, so that we could all vote on it and she can go before the CPA committee (Oct. 1st) and to the BOS after that.

Jim had e-mailed his comments earlier to the committee; Pat, Alison, Anne spoke their thoughts with Judi and Joe added their remarks. Discussion was lengthy, and Jon Fuller and Jim reminded the committee to remember this trail will be primarily used for "transportation" rather than "recreational". Jim commented anything other than Rt. 28 was not practical. Joe was of the opinion that the 1B option (Eastern Watershed Trail) should be the first choice because the Route 28 option will be too far off. Alison was leaning towards officially putting the Rt. 28 option as first while also requesting option 1B to be done in the meantime. Pat and Judi agreed that Rt. 28 was our best option, but because Mass Highway wouldn't be working on the road for many, many years, perhaps option 1B could be accomplished meantime. Anne was stubborn for option 1A and having doubts about the practicality of option 1B. After further mulling our choices, and weighing the pros and cons, Judi suggested making a **motion** and proceeded to shape it as follows:

"What we want is to present this as a safe transportation corridor, and our primary route is 1A to 2A to 3A, which would be the entire Rt. 28.

Our secondary route, and one we would like to work on currently, would be through the watershed, and through the watershed would be 1B (Eastern Watershed Trail), and from that, we're looking at taking the Fire Rd. to O'Connor, and from there, it would be signage to the roads (Lots Hollow Rd., Nickerson Rd., Marstons Rd., etc.), ending up in town, going through 3B (Middle School Campus, behind the Administrator's Building) to the center of town, and also with signage going down Eldredge Parkway to West Rd.(3D) and the bike trail."
The motion was seconded and passed, 4-2-0.

137: Roadway Master Plan:

Due to time constraints, it was decided to shelve this item until our next meeting in 2 weeks, on Oct. 5th.

103: Accident Log:

No Report

106: Safe Routes to School Program:

Pat hasn't had any comments from Assistant Superintendent, Gail Briere, or from anyone else.
Alison will try to get some PTA involved.

135: New Access Route –Canal Road from Stop & Shop Parking Lot:

Will do at a later date.

129: Quarterly Update of Current Bike Laws:

No Report.

133: Motorist Education:

No Report

134: Safety Video NRHS/Cable Channels:

Pat has the form for video production classes. They are held on Saturdays – when they have enough people signed up – and the classes are for 6 Saturdays, 3 hours each class. If anyone is interested, let Pat know. Alison wonders if John Fallender may be interested.

135: Working With Mass Bike/National Park Service:

Judi attended another meeting on August 25. Chief Roy and Kevin went. They are still working on maps to get them coordinated with all the towns. Judi noticed Orleans' map had no sidewalks, so she contacted Clay Schofield from the Cape Cod Commission (he's our contact with the National Park Service) to let him know. She believes they will hold another meeting in October.

Old Business:

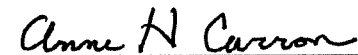
Our Massachusetts Bicycle Laws & Map of Orleans brochures were reprinted by the Cape Cod Tech. We received 2,000 for \$450.00. Jim is the "keeper" of them. He distributed about 1,300 this summer and has kept track of where they went so he can keep tabs for next year.

New Business:

Judi will write a letter to The Cape Codder explaining why we did the trail count.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:06 P.M.

Next Meeting is: October 5, 2009 at 4:00 P.M.



Anne H. Carron, Secretary