



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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December 7, 2009

The December 7, 2009 meeting was called to order by Chairperson Judi Weil at 4:02 PM.

Members:

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

Guests: Jon Fuller, Selectman Liaison and John Jannell, Assistant Town Planner.

Public Comment:

None.

Review and Approve the November Monthly Meeting Minutes:

The November minutes were reviewed, corrected and approved, 4-0-1.

Review and Update Action Items:

115: South Orleans Feasibility Trail Study:

Judi and Anne met with John Jannell to discuss what the next steps should be in regards to moving forward with the South Orleans to Orleans Center trail. Since our committee had made a presentation to the BOS, John said the next step would be for him to write up a draft letter for the committee to review so that we could give it to the selectmen, who in turn, would send it out to the District Office of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. John also agreed to attend our monthly (Dec.) meeting in order to sit with the whole committee to provide an update on various possibilities, or avenues, to take within this quest.

John suggests we let the District Office give us input, after they receive the letter, about whether we need to fill out a PNF (Project Need Fund), or TIP (Transportation Improvement Program). The PNF may incur a little expense (trafficking engineering). John thinks it likely that they (the District Office) may encourage the committee to compete for funds on the TIP. This step would be in the infancy of the whole process. The whole of Cape Cod competes for this money. Alison asked what the timeline would be, and John said it could go either way (priority or not priority). Judi asked if there is a "separation of money" between road improvement and bikeway improvement (under the TIP), and John said there are 2 "line-items", and within the TIP, is the C-MAC funds (has to do with the "air quality benefit"). John said TIP projects ebb and flow between "readiness and need", and he reiterated this is a necessary step for us to take.

Jon Fuller recommended the committee also send the letter to our representative on the Cape Cod County Commission (Peter Monger), or directly to the CCCC (Priscilla LeClair), to let them be aware of our request. It was felt that Rep. Sarah Peake should receive a copy as well. It was determined to send the correspondence "Return Receipt" to Mass DOT.

John Jannell will re-draft another letter to include the additions the committee has requested and have it ready for the members' approval later this week. **A motion was made to accept the amendments to the draft letter and review it, seconded, and passed, 7-0-0.** The committee will meet, again, on December 10, at 3:30 P.M., to review the final draft before it goes to the selectmen; Anne will post the meeting at Town Hall.

Judi asked if our next step should be to make a presentation to the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners and John recommended we wait until we hear from this letter. It was also suggested the committee wait on notifying the Nauset Regional School Committee.

137: Roadway Master Plan:

John Jannell made 2 road maps; one shows the (present) existing road conditions, and the other map shows our "wish list" (with road classifications). John's comment was that the "wish list" map had only Class 1 and Class 2 roads and no Class 3 roads, and that it was his feeling that we may want to categorize some of the roads as Class 3 roads because they could be a "channel" to get something started. We don't know Mark Budnick's (Highway Manager) schedule, but Judi has asked his department to e-mail our committee with his future scheduling plans.

At this point, discussion turned to the upcoming Public Hearing on December 9, held by the State, in regards to the intersection of Rts. 28 and 6A. Proposals of either a traffic light or a round-a-bout will be presented and John recommended the committee attend to offer our input. Judi, Pat and Anne said they would attend.

138: Coast to Coast Sidewalk:

Alison reported meeting with Rick Sigel about a multi-use path from Skaket Beach to Nauset Beach. They initially began with a print-out from the town's web site, but John Jannell made up a map. Alison and Rick drove Beach Rd. and along Main St. to the Academy of Performing Arts to scout the area (this is the area that seems to involve the most challenges). Because Beach Rd. is not a "laid out" road, the question is how much of an impact would a path be to the homeowners (taking a right-of-way). If the town decides to lay-out Beach Road, they draw a plan for the road, register it, and take the property within that layout. There are about 47 property owners and it would be a challenge to get all to approve if the road remains not laid-out. Because the BOS is not laying out any roads at this time, policy would have to change (by the BOS), then, it would have to go before town meeting to have the money appropriated (probably requiring a 2/3 vote), and then there would be negotiations with the property owners about deeded rights, etc. These are just some of the steps that would have to be taken in order to take a road.

Discussion continued about the merits of either laying out the road or just going to the homeowners and asking for their permission. John Jannell stated it's better, in the long run, to lay-out the road, and perhaps the grass-roots group may be able to get the word out to get the road laid-out. Alison may check with John Kelly/Town Council for advice about how to start the process for laying out a road.

103: Accident Log:

No Report

106: Safe Routes to School Program:

Alison attended the Safe Routes to School conference on Nov. 5, and the main point she came away with is that there are innumerable ways to do the program. Alison attended sessions during the day and heard many examples of how to do a program. She feels it may be best to approach the parents to try to motivate them, so they, in turn, can motivate the teachers, the school nurse and the physical education teacher. Alison would like to start with a survey.

119: International Worker Training/Chamber of Commerce and
135: New Access Route – Canal Road from Stop and Shop Parking Lot:

Jim reported he has enough brochures (about 1,000 left) for next year, and that they may want to update the DVD, or wait until the new laws come out. Stop & Shop and Shaw's have different formats, but both stores seem happy with what they have. Shaw's may be willing to buy helmets, especially if they come in around \$5-\$7.00, and Stop & Shop may consider doing the same thing. Both places are happy with the bicycle situation, and with Bill Rangnow's help. (Mr. Rangnow is always looking for storage for the bikes and help with maintenance on the bikes). Jim discovered some new, blue lights (cost about \$5.00) that may be better than the red, strobe lights.

Jim also talked with Ben at Stop & Shop about the possibility of access through the store's parking lot over to Canal Road, and for the moment, this seems like a dead issue since Ben has not had any response from corporate headquarters.

129: Quarterly Update of Current Bike Laws:

No Report

133: Motorist Education:

No Report

134: Safety Video NRHS/Cable Channels:

No Report

136: Working with Mass Bike/National Park Service:

No Report

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Judi has written up a draft for the 2009 Annual Town Report, and she has asked the committee to read it over and make comments or corrections.

Judi mentioned that, at the last meeting she and Anne had with John Jannell, John suggested the committee consider discussing, and working on, getting the crosswalks in town to all becoming unified. There is a lack of consistency with the crosswalks (color, materials used), and it would be nice to be consistent.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:20 P.M.

Next Meeting is: January 4, 2010 @ 4:00 P.M.

Anne H. Carron, Secretary