

Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee - Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2016
7PM, Westborough Town Hall

Members Present:

Ellen Gugel, Glenn Mcleod, Don Burn, Bruce Tretter

Also present: Howard Drake, Bo Daley (Central Federal Credit Union), Mary Cuff (Walker Meadows resident)

Bo Daley – Central Federal Credit Union – Westborough Bike Club

Bo has been a successful advocate for bike clubs in Central Massachusetts, most notably regarding the Bike Alley Bike Club in Worcester with more than 100 members. Bo would like to start a bike club in Westborough and has already been coordinating rides with the Westborough Rotary Club. It was suggested that Bo contact the Westborough Recreation Dept. Manager, Alan Grady, about coordinating and announcing events through the town's recreation department. Don Burn mentioned that the creation and support of a town bike club would help the town qualify to become a national bike friendly community. Don also suggested that Bo check the Westboroughcharm.org website for potential in-town mountain biking opportunities.

Mary Cuff – Walker Meadows Community, Park St.

Mary Cuff was present to express privacy and security concerns regarding the proposed BWALT trail proximity to the Walker Meadows community. Mary was specifically concerned about a six-foot fence CarMax was supposed to erect on the southwest corner of their lot to reduce exposure to the Walker Meadows community. The committee was not aware that such a fence had been installed. Mary was also concerned about the need to provide a privacy/security buffer between the BWALT right of way and the Walker Meadows buildings. The committee agreed to take Mary's concerns under advisement as the trail process moves forward.

Mary also asked for a copy of the BWALT plans. Bruce Tretter promised to forward those plans to her.

BPAC Related Fall Town Meeting Article Review

The committee reviewed Articles 10 (required easements outside of West Park Drive to Park St. survey, feasibility engineering, and preliminary design) and Article 23 (Board of Selectmen acceptance of trail easements from the Southborough town line to Northborough town line). The committee is prepared to make its presentation regarding these articles to the town's Advisory Finance Committee on October 13th.

Walk to School Day – Armstrong Elementary School – Scheduled for Oct. 5, 2016

Glenn Mcleod made a well-received presentation to the Armstrong School Class Meeting September 26th. Armstrong Principal John Mendes supports the effort completely. As many students and parents of those students will walk to school on the morning of October 5th in commemoration of International Walk to School Day. Committee members will be present at Armstrong School to greet walking students at 8:30 AM Oct. 5th.

Report on Moving Together Conference

Don Burn and Bruce Tretter both attended the annual MassDOT Moving Together Conference in Boston September 29, 2016. Don reported that those responsible for drafting the Massachusetts Pedestrian Plan might be interested in soliciting Westborough's input, along with approximately 60 other Massachusetts's communities input, regarding the state draft plan. The committee agreed by consensus that Westborough input would add value to the plan, especially considering the establishment of the town BPAC and newly invigorated town sidewalk plan. Don will follow up with MassDOT representatives to advocate for Westborough participation.

Next Meeting

Next BPAC meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 7th at 7 PM.