

Ad Hoc Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee Meeting Minutes  
Forbes Building, Auditorium, January 15, 2013

Committee members present: Chris Hughes, Don Burn, Ellen Gugel, Bruce Tretter, Donna Avery

Meeting began at 7:05 pm.

**Minutes 11/27/12:** approved.

## **Trails**

**Easements:** Don has spoken with Greg Franks regarding easements associated with trolley line trail planning. We now have to see how the Selectmen want to proceed regarding those easements.

**Regional Bike Committee:** Don, Bruce and Westborough Town Planner Jim Robbins recently met with town planners from Northborough, Southborough and Shrewsbury to present Don's Boston to Worcester Air Line Trail (BWALT) multi-use trail plan and to gauge interest from those towns going forward. Don and Tim Dodd are going to Central Mass Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) meeting this Thursday night, Jan. 17, to make a presentation regarding a regional grant request for CMRPC District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA). If approved, the grant money would be used to assess the feasibility of the BWALT plan.

**Economic Benefits of Trails**– Rural and suburban retailers and business parks recognize that trails in the vicinity of their locations are assets to both their businesses and employees. Northhampton realtor Craig Della Penna has offered to speak in our area regarding economic trail benefits. Don will contact Craig about what Craig could offer. Don has other contacts, Dick Williamson (Bruce Freeman Trail) and Eric Weiss (East Coast Greenway) who could be approached regarding linking trails and trail funding mechanisms

**Announcing Don's BWALT Plan:** Don recommended we wait until we get broader Board of Selectmen and/or grant support for the BWALT plan until the plan is publicly announced.

## **Bike Safety Education**

**Spring Festival** - Bruce will contact Rotary member Sue Abladian regarding a festival venue. The Spring Festival is scheduled for May 3-5.

**Pedestrian Safety** – John Walden and Jim Malloy have expressed interest in improving pedestrian crosswalk safety signs. Ellen will check into grants of \$5000 - 10,000 available for crosswalk safety improvements (signs, recessed reflectors). Bruce to continue discussions with John Walden and Jim Malloy regarding a Town Meeting article to fund some pedestrian crosswalk safety signs.

**Landry's Bike Safety Event** – Bruce will contact Landry's manager Brandon Krebs about a spring bike safety and awareness event at Landry's this spring.

**Report to Selectmen:** Bruce to draft one page report & talk with Tim Dodd about date to present at an upcoming Selectmen's meeting.

**Website:** Chris to include Janet Anderson, Howard Anderson, Nancy Siegel and Tim Dodd on committee email group. Chris will also include cycling resource links such as Massbike, local bike shops and East Coast Greenway on the committee's website page.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, Feb. 26 @ 7pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.