

Falmouth Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Virtual Committee Meeting Via Zoom

find the zoom link here: <https://www.falmouthma.gov/bikeped>

June 7, 2023 7:00pm

1. Real-time public comment will be permitted utilizing the Zoom virtual meeting software.

Submitted text comments may be read into the record at the appropriate points in the meeting as determined by the Chair, or the Chair may ask for oral public comment and discussion.

2. Additionally, public comments may be sent in advance of the meeting to Scott Lindell ([scott.lindell@falmouthma.gov](mailto:scott.lindell@falmouthma.gov)) at least 5 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Documents and audio or video files may also be submitted via email in advance of the meeting. Submitted email comments and documents will be made a part of the meeting record and may be read into the record, summarized, or displayed during the meeting at the discretion of the chair.

Present: Peter Mili, Tim Shea, Pamela Rothstein, Nathaniel Clark, Neel Aluru, Chris McGuire, Katherine Jansen, JoAnn Fishbein

Absent: Scott Lindell

Others Present: Burton Shank, Matt Delany, Ellen Adams, Paul Joyce

#### Chairperson's opening remarks on conditions for remote meeting & participation

At 7:00 KJ called the meeting to order and read conditions for remote meetings.

#### Minutes from previous meeting

Chris moved to approve the minutes of 5/3/23. Neel seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Neel Aluru -aye

JoAnn Fishbein-aye

Tim Shea-aye

Chris McGuire-aye

Peter Mili-aye

Pamela Rothstein-aye

Nathaniel Clark-aye

Katherine Jansen-abstained

#### Public Comment

Burton Shank expressed a concern that some high school students are excluded from after school activities because of a lack of transportation. The present Bike Plan recommends connecting the north end of Gifford, the high school, and Goodwill Park. He suggested also accessing an existing network of paths around Long Pond that provide access to the plot where the new

YMCA will be built. These paths are now used by walkers and mountain bikers. He asked that the FBPC consider this option.

A discussion included the following:

- There should be advocacy for both plans.
- The total length is 1.2 miles
- The existing connector is isolated and so less safe. Also, it does not serve everybody all the time.
- It should be determined if this is feasible considering it is adjacent to the water supply.
- Even before this is determined it should be broadcast to town officials to show the important work and concern of citizens.
- Burton and Tim will approach the DPW to address this question
- KJ and Burton will send a letter to the Select Board to discuss this proposal
- Neel will reach out to NEMBA to see if they have any activity with the high school and also to get their opinion.
- There is a possibility of a grant for MA Trails Funding to help cover the cost of this – their deadline is Feb for possible funding
- The next grant cycle for Safe Routes To School is Oct3- Nov 18.

#### Reports:

-Friends of Falmouth Bikeways: No report.

-Traffic Advisory Committee: KJ will attend the next meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### DPW Update

Tim asked the committee to send him suggestions about which sections of the bikeway should be addressed next.

Pamela wondered if the grinding of pavement that has taken place is subject to further deterioration. Tim will ask the DPW.

The committee has asked the DPW to investigate pavement conservation for the bikeway as is being done on roadways.

There has been no word from Eversource about the projected timing of work along the bikepath and along Palmer Avenue. It appears that the work is being delayed by permitting and will most likely proceed in the fall.

Pamela recommended we do a publicity blurb in the Enterprise about the Palmer Avenue Crossing with photos. Tim offered to follow up with this.

#### New business

New Committee member introduction and welcome:

New committee members Matt Delany, Ellen Adams, Paul Joyce were introduced and welcomed.

o Discussion about best way to onboard new members

Several items were mentioned as important for new members to know: open meeting law, agenda postings, town department heads, town departments that the committee works with regularly, existing documents such as Complete Streets, Falmouth Bike Plan, Bike Friendly Community, funding schedules, purview of the committee, Steamship Authority issues

KJ will check if FPBC can set up a Google Drive to share documents electronically.

Discussion about resuming in person Committee meetings vs Zoom  
o Note July 5th BPC meeting, should it be moved to July 12?  
Several options were discussed and the committee was generally in favor of meeting in person. The meetings will continue on Zoom for the next meeting, however. The committee agreed that the July meeting would be moved to the 12<sup>th</sup> to avoid conflict with the holiday.

Tim motioned to move the July meeting from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup>. JoAnn seconded.  
A roll call vote was taken.

Neel Aluru -aye  
JoAnn Fishbein-aye  
Tim Shea-aye  
Chris McGuire- abstained  
Peter Mili-aye  
Pamela Rothstein-aye  
Nathaniel Clark-aye  
Katherine Jansen-aye

Recap and learnings from bike breakfast, May 17<sup>th</sup>  
The committee thought that moving the location further south on the bikeway may result in more attendees. It was noted that the community encounters resulting from this event and other events such as community bike rides are priceless.

SSBW Readiness  
o Memorial Day Weekend eco-counter numbers  
About 24,000 units were counted which is an increase of about 900 from last year.  
o Eco-counter potential solutions and timeline  
JoAnn reported that the counter is being repaired. The issue was a damaged Motherboard. Eco-visio is not charging for the repair. A suggestion was made to post the count on the FBPC Facebook Page.

Honoring Scott, Pamela, and Chris for a collective 27 years of service! The committee discussed meeting at Pie in the Sky on Thursday July 6 at 5 to honor the outgoing members.

At 8:30 the committee adjourned by consensus.