

Falmouth Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee DRAFT MINUTES

Wednesday, October 4, 2023, 7:00pm

Town Hall, 59 Town Hall Square, Old Water Department Room

Present: Matt Delany, Ellen Adams, Neel Aluru, Katherine Jansen, JoAnn Fishbein, Peter Mili

Absent: Paul Joyce, Nathaniel Clark, Tim Shea

Others Present: Paul Dreyer

• **Call to order**

At 7:01 KJ called the meeting to order.

• **Approval of minutes from previous meeting**

Ellen moved to approve the minutes of 9/6/23. Neel seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Matt Delany-aye

Ellen Adams-aye

Neel Aluru-aye

Katherine Jansen-aye

JoAnn Fishbein-aye

Peter Mili-aye

• **Questions or comments about pre-read materials**

No concerns.

New business

-Public Comment

None

-Bourne Rail Trail fact sheet Q&A and recent meetings

A discussion included the following:

- Headlines about the BRT have been incendiary.
- Should the BPC be proponents? Neutral? We have not previously taken a position.
- There have been many years of extensive discussions, vigorous problem solving, and public meetings about this issue. This connector was one of the top 3 priorities identified this fall by the BPC.
- A motion was made to gather more information so that the entire Committee would have a packet of identical facts that are sourced.

KJ moved to accept the suggestion to gather more information and have it ready for the next meeting. JoAnn seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Matt Delany-aye

Ellen Adams-aye

Neel Aluru-aye

Katherine Jansen-aye

JoAnn Fishbein-aye

Peter Mili-aye

-Town Manager meeting about the SSA terminal and pedestrian/cyclist safety issues: KJ reported that she, Ellen and Neel met with Mike Renshaw about the SSA automatic renewal of the Church Street parking lot lease . The meeting was to inform the Town Manager of some of the unsafe conditions in the parking lots plus a request to engage a traffic engineer to design safe bike rider and pedestrian flows in the parking lot and surrounding streets. The embarkation fund could be used to cover costs of design and remedies.

-Recent DPW semi-annual meeting outcomes and actions:

-Shining Sea Bikeway

▪ Nobska Bridge: Repair is on the November Town Meeting warrant, if passed, will go out to bid in December with work beginning in Spring

▪ Regarding the Fay Road detour, meeting members discussed requesting riders to walk bikes up and down the connection to the SSBW.

- For repaving the root lift section near Woods Hole, there is no way for large trucks to access the site so DPW would need to research other methods. The BPC agreed that the work needed to be done, would be an inconvenience no matter when it was done, and this work should remain a priority.

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▪ Potential for increased budget via Town Hall meeting in Spring: Increasing the SSBW budget was discussed.

▪ Potential for summer staff person in operating budget: The DPW is also open to the idea of hiring a seasonal worker to work the bikeway.

o Planned work

▪ Potholes on County Road fix: Repairs were requested to make roadway safer for cyclists.

▪ Route 151/Boxberry/Sam Turner work in fall of 2024.

▪ Water main work an opportunity to improve road surfaces and line painting: When water mains are replaced, this will be an opportunity to improve road surfaces and line painting.

o Eversource

There is no final set of plans, no state permits and the DPW and Town will not allow a short window before construction. Therefore, it is unlikely work will be done this season.

o East/West Connector: The DPW preference as well as the BPC is Brick Kiln Rd. There are concept drawings that are about 5 years old for the section between Sandwich and Gifford. The preference would be for a grassy strip as a traffic barrier + a 12-foot-wide multi-use path. Jim McGloughlin to work with BPC on evaluating where/how to begin.

• **Speeding on the SSBW** – some new thoughts: Current speed limit signage seems to be effective. Another recommended approach, gleaned from marketing, is to place seasonal temporary “political-size” signs by the side of SSBW, suggesting riders slow down, using a variety of messages that might appeal to people, catch their attention. i.e. and urging them to ‘slow down for me’. . A suggestion was made to collaborate with the high school art department students to create the a variety posters.

KJ shared information from the open meeting training: If a quorum is present, it is a public meeting; a separate Gmail account should be considered for committee members as a best practice since chain forwarding of emails is considered deliberation by the state, and the BPC will include pre-read materials with agendas in public postings.

At 8:08 Neel moved to adjourn. Ellen seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Matt Delany-aye

Ellen Adams-aye

Neel Aluru-aye

Katherine Jansen-aye

JoAnn Fishbein-aye

Peter Mili-aye

Relevant Documents

Minutes Of 9/6/23, Tim’s spreadsheet