

Weston Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Wednesday, Feb 2nd, 2012 Weston Town Hall Commission Room

Members Present: Alycia Angus, Bernie Park, Ray Rauth (Chairman), Julie Sidhu (Recording) Louise Hastings

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Rauth at 12:32p.m

Chairman's remarks: Ray has been invited to attend the Weston League of Women Voters at Saturday's "Speak Up" event. Ray will have hard copies of the Bike/Pedi Scaffold plan available should members of the community wish to review our goals.

Ray said that recently there have been several pedestrian accidents in New Milford, Westport and Stratford noting that the roads are primarily designed and built for motorists and not other users.

Pam Girard, Community Relations Representative of the Sound Cyclists Bicycle Club, plans to visit our committee but could not make it today.

Ray spoke to a member of the group "Wildlife in Crisis" (Pete) re walking the Grey Fox Lane public/privately owned land. Pete said that Steve Patton does not want to encourage other access points to Devil's Den, but that he would be willing to walk the land with us if we want him to.

Ray, Alycia and Louise mentioned the quick, but firm response to National Bike to School Day in May by town officials due to Safety concerns. Julie suggested that given how busy the roads are at commuter and school drop off times, perhaps we, and other volunteer adults, might bike to school on that day from our homes to get firsthand knowledge of safety issues at various points in town.

Pro Forma Matters:

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Alycia Angus, seconded by Louise Hastings.

Approval of August minutes: Moved by Louise Hastings, seconded by Alycia Angus.

Status Reports Update:

Safe Routes to School: Nothing new to report.

Agenda: Ray said he would like to review how we present our agenda given that some things are ongoing, but with little action. Alycia and Louise suggested an update section with items "archived" and updated only as necessary.

Website: Bio requested from Bernie. Editing is continuing. Julie will let Louise know when site is complete and notify Weston Forum and add link to town website.

Education: The committee held a **special meeting January 18th at noon** at the home of Louise Hastings to discuss and present content. Julie will make a date for a meeting with Kim Kos, curriculum director, to

review the committee's lesson plans. **(Call to action Julie)** Alycia, Louise and Bernie will work on lower school lesson plans.

Bisceglie and Old Hyde School Trail: Nothing new to report. Alycia suggested "Old Hyde Trail" be included with "Walkable Village Loop" instead of Bisceglie Trail. All agreed.

Events:

Big Bike Pedi Event: Nothing new to report at this time. Dates for future Big Bike Pedi Event to be determined. Louise is working with Gail Weinstein to secure a date. **(Action Louise)** The June date was turned down so an August date is now favored.

Earth Day: Alycia suggested that perhaps we could incorporate an event for Earth Day. Julie suggested 3 levels of walks at Bisceglie Trail. 1. A trail run of approx. 3-4 loops of trail. 1. A fitness trail walk/jog with instructions on using the equipment. 3. A casual stroll on the lower half of the trail. Julie will contact Gail Weinstein and Dave Ungar re feasibility. **(Action Julie)** Ray will try to set up meeting with Senior center. **(Action Ray)**

Village Walkable Loop: Alycia and Louise mentioned the possibility of town owned land at the end of Hedgerow Common. Ray will bring the land map to next meeting for the group to review. **(Action Ray)** Alycia noted a path from Tobacco Road to School road that is maintained by the adjacent homeowners for use by children walking to school.

Alycia will request a meeting with Dave Lusberger to see what future plans, if any are in store for the bus garage. **(Action Alycia)** It was suggested that perhaps an invited walk of the village loop should be undertaken in the spring that would include Gail Weinstein, (First Selectmen) Colleen Palmer (School Superintendent) Members of the Police Commission, chief of Police and Joe Lametta (Public works)

Julie will contact Joe Lametta to see if a date has been scheduled for the Norfield Road /Weston Road junction approved by SWRPA. **(Call to Action Julie)**

Goals: Alycia presented the Bike/Ped 2012 Goals document to the group. Alycia organized current and future projects under six categories. Education Initiative, Website, Cross Town Bike Routes, Village Walkable Loop, Events and Outreach. (Thanks Alycia. Nice work)

Outreach: Ray will continue to work with the Senior Center and has requested a meeting. Louise noted that Kiwanis has gotten approval for the Weston Half Marathon to be held the same day as NYC Marathon. The bike Pedi committee is invited to have a presence.

Meeting adjourned 1:34 Move to adjourn Ray, Seconded Alycia

Next Meeting: February 1st 2012

