



Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

Town of Watertown
Administration Building
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ETHAN DAVIS, CHAIR
ANDREW COMPAGNA
SHEILA FAY
JESSE HAMMOND
TRICIA HOPKINS
JANET JAMESON
OLIVER RICK
MARIA SAIZ
SAM SCOPPETTONE

MEETING MINUTES

The **Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee** met on Monday, **June 4, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Lower Meeting Room, Administration Building, 149 Main Street, Watertown, MA. Present: Ethan Davis, Andy Compagna, Sheila Fay, Jesse Hammond, Tricia Hopkins, Janet Jameson, Oliver Rick, Maria Saiz, Laura Wiener (Town transportation planner).

The following are the meeting minutes:

1. May 7 minutes approved.
2. Bike Event Recap: Event was well attended. Decent turnout, busy till 11:30-12, then dropped off. People interested in local bike issues. CommonWheels bike tune-ups was big draw. Stephanie suggested another bike event at the Farmer's Market, still trying to schedule. CommonWheels will attend Farmer's Market monthly. Bike Share Spin and LimeBike attended.
3. Other events: Watertown Challenge League Trophy Day: June 17th, 11-12:30. Jesse and possibly others will attend. Ethan will let organizer (Brenda) know we will be there.
4. Discussion of Chair: Ethan has been chair for 3-4 years and wants to step down. Andy volunteered and accepted as new chair. If Sam is interested (not present) could be co-chair. Laura big help in doing agenda and minutes, wants to discuss agenda with chair before meeting. Suggested: form sub-committees. Possibly: events, outreach, projects, or, 4 E's—education, engineering, enforcement, evaluation and planning.
5. Mt Auburn Street Design: final presentation to Town Council Public Works committee, scheduled for June 21. After Council approves, will go to full engineering of plans, then to MassDOT for comments, then MassDOT holds a public hearing. Issues raised regarding speeding.
6. Marshall St counterflow lane. Relocated to Palfrey St., which ends at a traffic light making it safer to turn left. Concern about narrowness of Palfrey. Sub-committee suggested to discuss with Laura & Matt, Andy, Maria & Sheila.
7. Bus Priority Project & Better Bus Project: Cambridge wants to implement at the same time as the Fresh Pond Pkwy intersection rebuild. Now pushed out to October due to DCR timeline. Watertown will implement right turn and bus queue lanes at Walnut St. & School St. Eventually will have transit priority signal. Laura working on letter to MBTA re: service improvements. Going to TC in June.
8. Community Path: DCR construction due to start in June, done hopefully next spring. Section of path from Arsenal at Irving St to Taylor St., right on Taylor to Mt Auburn and across to Baptist Walk, about to begin final design and engineering. Working with VHB re: alternatives and then have fall public meeting. Next piece after that is Baptist Walk and through municipal parking lots, but not until Parking Study is done, and then make all changes at once.
9. Dockless Bike Share delayed, still anticipated to launch in June. Working out the agreement with LimeBike & Spin. Launching in 15 communities together.
10. Interested in having Police come and talk to us about how they handle bicycle accidents. They said they would give us stats on this but haven't gotten anything lately. Info gets loaded up to the state level but question re: what metrics are recorded, and how to interpret results. Q: how is enforcement happening, i.e. in situations of right hook? What type of accidents involving bikes do police see? What can cyclists and drivers do differently? What can we do to educate drivers and cyclists? Ethan will reach out to Sgt Sampson/bicycle officers about coming to meeting.

Next meeting is 7/9. Laura will check on getting a room. Will be Ethan's end of chair party ☺

NEXT MEETING: Monday 7/9/18 at 7:30pm. Location: TBD