



Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

Town of Watertown
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ANDRE COMPAGNA, CHAIR
SHEILA FAY
JESSE HAMMOND
JANET JAMESON
DAN MCKINLEY
AMY PLOVNICK
HANNAH RAKOFF
MARIA SAIZ

MEETING MINUTES

The **Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee** met via Zoom on **Monday December 6, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.** Present: Andy Compagna, Sheila Fay, Jesse Hammond, Janet Jameson, Amy Plovnick, Hannah Rakoff, Maria Saiz, Laura Wiener (staff); visitors: Susan Flint, Liz Helfer

Following are the meeting minutes:

1. Introductions: Liz Helfer: new Public Arts & Culture Planner at City Hall. Thinking about overlap between the events she coordinates and Bike-Ped Committee, such as Yard Art. Possible Yard Art routes by bike or walking. Yard Art: March 4 – April 3. Publicity going out soon, hoping to get 300 participants. Janet will lead discussion in January about Bike-Ped Committee role.
2. Minutes approved.
3. Committee Discussion: Laura trained in hybrid meetings. Do we want to do in person/hybrid meetings? Decision to stay virtual through March, reassess at March meeting, and partly depends on Governor's state of emergency allowing virtual public meetings until April.
4. Old Business:
 - a. MassDOT Mt Auburn St public hearing letter: positive feedback from committee. Dan did a great job writing it. Comments tied to Bike-Ped plan. Next Steps: MassDOT will look at comments, not sure what they will do. Andy will send letter to City Council and new councilors. Comment period extended but not sure of new deadline.
 - b. Bike Ped Implementation Plan: Laura submitted a written report
 - i. Looking for possible location for new BlueBikes station, best on public property. Arsenal Yards getting lots of usage, others getting pretty good use. Funding available for 2-3 more stations. One proposed for 80 Mt Auburn St, in front of Belmont-Watertown United Methodist Church (between Summer and Palfrey); possibly Arsenal Street at Irving St., other ideas include Victory Field, or Pleasant St. New ones to be installed next spring.
 - ii. Subcommittee to meet with DPW on street work, on picking projects.
 - iii. Enforcement of on street winter parking which allows street cleaners to work. This is an issue for the police. Laura suggested using 311 system.
5. A. DCR Watertown Riverfront Charles River Road Phase II Construction Public Info Mtg: Thursday 12/9 6pm. RE: sidewalks, restoring paths & native landscapes. On DCR website about upcoming meetings.
6. Next meeting rescheduled to Jan 10 at 7:30 via Zoom, due to City Council inauguration 1/3.