



Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

City of Watertown
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JAMIE BURKE, CO-CHAIR
DAN MCKINLEY, CO-CHAIR
ANDREW COMPAGNA
SHEILA FAY
JESSE HAMMOND
AMY PLOVNICK
HANNAH RAKOFF
MARIA SAIZ
TIFFANY YORK

MEETING MINUTES

The **Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee** met via Zoom on **Monday March 6, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.** Present: Andy Compagna, Jamie Burke (chair this meeting), Sheila Fay, Jesse Hammond, Dan McKinley, Hannah Rakoff, Amy Plovnick, Maria Saiz, Tiffany York, Laura Wiener(staff), visitors: Susan Flint, Will Twombly, Tom Floros, Bob Shay, Deb Petersen,

Following are the meeting minutes:

1. Minutes from February accepted
2. Bike Event May 20: Sophia confirmed bike mechanics (1-3pm), TMA will cover the costs. Figuring out any give-aways – possibly paid by LiveWell Watertown. Focused on handouts. Interest in a bike routes map if possible. City Manager said we could have funds for events like this, through DCDP. Fee for electric bike at event, about \$150, to allow people to take rides. Suggestions for give-aways: reflective pant leg protectors; something safety oriented, rear red light. MassBike has Lights Brigade, Jesse filled out volunteer form for this event, so we'll see what comes from that. Once committee decides what want to ask for, send email to Steve Magoon.
3. Meeting with City Manager, Dan, Jamie and Laura, good conversation with George. Raised goal in Climate Action plan to get to Net Zero, raised how to increase bike ped infrastructure, and about culture issues. Asked about position on Traffic Comm, asked about funds and 2 new members (may need to go to Council), bike parking – George suggested put into the Comprehensive Plan. George asked for our requests for Mt Auburn St.
4. Comprehensive Plan (feedback meeting 3/9). Some thoughts: plan doesn't say much about implementation and enforcement in transportation section: ie parking on sidewalks, better street & sidewalk designs. Strategy plans need more fleshing out: minimum roadway standards, code enforcement. Push plan #4H more near term. Micro-transit needs more push. Use See-Click-Fix for enforcement of sidewalk snow shoveling. Incentives to help with shoveling. Climate Action folks feedback: transportation actions seem more tentative than in Bike-Ped plan. Support for Bike-Ped plan needs strengthening. Getting mode shifts to meet goal of lowering vehicle trips to 50% means changing infrastructure metrics. Focus on Vision Zero as a main thing to push. Time period for comments – Jamie will draft a detailed written statement from the committee. Change 4K to get bike parking at all bus stops. Improve north-south connectivity for bicycles. Jamie will write a letter and run it by Dan. Committee approved her submitting the letter.
5. Working Groups Discussions
 - a. Bike Parking: no update
 - b. Road Construction letter – send Jamie or Dan a letter with pain points
 - c. Janet Jameson memorial: Maria didn't reach Rep. Steve Owens, will do this month
 - d. Yard Art: Sheila has been in touch with Liz Helfer regarding setting up a bike route but waiting for map with places. Will suggest a ride on 4/23 Sunday.
6. Development

- a. 480 Arsenal St report from Community meeting: request for more bike parking in one area, they said there was more parking in other areas. Discussion regarding path from north to area. Discussion about lights for bike path crossing.
- b. 104-126 Main St: Jesse attended meeting. Will include pedestrian safety assessment and provide money to City for ped safety, and Watertown Sq and Community Path wayfinding signs. Underground parking: some bike parking inside, but steep grade to get in. Project presentation on Watertown website, Jan 19. Going to Planning Board this month
- 7. Mt Auburn St feedback: George receptive to our proposed changes, particularly bollards.
- 8. New business:
 - a. Will Twombly spoke on Bikes Not Bombs bike collection, First Parish Church wants to do one, possibly 5/6/23. Would Committee like to co-sponsor, and volunteer with publicity? Also need some volunteers for day of event. We will vote on being co-sponsors next meeting. Sheila & Jesse volunteer to help.
 - b. LiveWell Watertown thinking of applying for grant from AARP to get older folks back on bikes. Jamie will help.
 - c. Discuss meeting in person at next meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Comp. Plan meeting, Thursday March 9, 6:30-8:00 pm at the Library.

Next Bike-Ped Comm. Meeting: April 3, 2023 @ 7:30pm via Zoom, meanwhile sub groups will meet.