



Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

City of Watertown
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

MEETING MINUTES

The **Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee** met via Zoom on **Monday July 11, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** Present: Andy Compagna, Jamie Burke, Sheila Fay, Jesse Hammond, Dan McKinley, Hannah Rakoff, Maria Saiz, Laura Wiener(staff)

Following are the meeting minutes:

1. Minutes approved for May and June 2022
2. Congratulations to Amy on birth of new baby, Sylvie
3. New member: Tiffany York, appointed but had conflict for tonight. Needs to be sworn in.
4. Planning for Faire on the Square: sub-committee of Sheila, Andy, Dan was established. Consensus: do bike parking again. Last year got rack from MassBike. Laura suggesting we could buy portable racks with money leftover from a MassDOT Shared Streets grant. Will decide at August meeting. Need application for table. Volunteer schedule. Andy will check inventory for buttons and handouts.
5. Comprehensive Plan: public meeting last week. Questions re: Bike-Ped Committee engagement – no separate meeting with Bike-Ped Committee, but more public meetings will occur, and should be attended by Committee members.
6. TDM plans status report: Laura has been reviewing and monitoring of plans annually, except during Covid when many offices were closed. Most important: counts of various transportation modes. Not meeting goal of fewer SOV, now about 90% in SOV. No incentives to mode shift. Zoning pressure to have enough parking so people don't park on streets, and building brokers push for more. Biking numbers are lower than other communities. Helpful: people show up at developer meetings to push for more bike accommodation. Also need more city support to connect bike infrastructure.
7. Bike Parking requirements: Suggestion to require more bike parking in zoning. In past our requirements were initiated by Maria, Deb & Janet, and passed by the Council, very minimal due to resistance. Currently: 1 bike spot to 15 car spots within private development. Need metric not tied to autos, need to reassess bike parking all through city: both placement, types of racks, and amount. Zoning covers private property. Public bike parking from the city: new racks coming with Mt Auburn redesign and Community Path. Working group on subject: Andy, Maria, Hannah & Dan. Possibly include car parking.

8. Community Path update – Main St to Howard St section: Dan is writing a letter about Main Street crossing. High School plans do show a crossing; other plans go from Main St to Howard St. Laura to send plans to everyone.

9. Janet Jameson Memorial: Janet was instrumental in advocating for Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, getting the legislative & financial support, and design. Request to have Watertown section named for Janet. Sub-group: Maria, Sheila & Hannah to work on this.

10. Arsenal Park update: from Gideon, nothing in plans until summer 2023.

11. 88 Water St Developer's Conference: construction near bus garage along Nonantum, adjacent to construction on Galen, same owners. Well done plans, no tenant, designed as lab space. Will fix Water St/bus parking garage intersection. Includes internal bike parking and bike facilities.

12: New items:

- Notification: Council Committee on Climate and Energy, review of Climate and Energy Plan, Transportation & Mobility section and Infrastructure & Waste section, Thursday July 14th at 5:30pm
- Cambridge lawsuit about extended bike lanes on Mass Ave.
- Responding to Alex at Farmer's Market, re: attending as community group

Next Bike-Ped Comm. Meeting: August 1 and September 12, 2022 @ 7:30pm via Zoom, meanwhile sub groups will meet. Likely to have small group at August meeting.