



Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

City of Watertown
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JAMIE BURKE, Co-chair
DAN MCKINLEY, Co-chair
ANDY COMPAGNA
SHEILA FAY
JESSE HAMMOND
AMY PLOVnick
HANNAH RAKOFF
MARIA SAIZ
TIFFANY YORK

MEETING MINUTES

The **Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee** met via Zoom on **Monday November 14, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** Present: Andy Compagna, Jamie Burke, Sheila Fay, Jesse Hammond, Hannah Rakoff, Maria Saiz, Tiffany York, staff: Laura Wiener; visitors: Susan Flint, Hal Shear

Following are the meeting minutes:

1. Acceptance of October minutes – postponed to next meeting
2. Designating a new chair: Andy stepping down as chair after Nov. 14th meeting. Discussed options of rotating chair and co-chairs. Agenda set between the chair and transportation staff member, and then chair runs the meeting. Dan and Jamie volunteered to be co-chairs. Voted on and approved. Possibly organizing as internal and external focused roles. Hannah volunteered to run the meeting if needed. Andy's leadership was recognized with appreciation for 4 years as Chair. He will stay on the committee going forward.
3. Working group discussions:
 - a. Bike Parking: Hannah, Maria & Dan. Working on proposal to amend zoning to increase bike parking for commercial properties, for City Council. Group will bring a draft to December meeting for discussion and feedback. Hopefully voted on in January or February. Would also apply to housing developments with more than 4 units.
 - b. Establishing memorial for Janet Jameson: hasn't been worked on. Follow up by Maria.
4. Development:
 - a. 313 Pleasant St (near Plumbing Museum). Developer without tenant, so very little detail about bike specifics.
 - b. Can we get more incentives for bikes and peds coming to work as a way to encourage more alternative transportation through the TMA. Federal IRS allows up to \$20/mo for reimbursement of bicycle expenses. Can we offer points on TDM plan for this? Or, offer tune-ups as a TMA incentive? Laura will follow up with TMA.
5. Committee Discussion:
 - a. DPW street plans (Andy, Maria, Hannah): DPW wants to create multi-use path along Morse St, which would link to City Hall and Community Path extension. Priority of DPW seems to be the road. Evaluation prioritizes cars, not cyclists, who are often along the side. Sidewalk list wasn't ready for the meeting, so Maria asked Matt to send us the list.

b. Sidewalk Snow Removal recap: Susan Flint update: DPW & Rules & Ordinance Committees went over the draft ordinance in a public meeting. Councilors have interest in seeing it get done but some details need to be worked out: i.e. if exemptions are given then who clears the sidewalks? It would be complaint-based enforcement. Momentum there but not happening this year. Another public meeting will be scheduled before confirmed.

6. New Business: Hal Shear then brought up his concern about need for a bike lane along Grove to Mt. Auburn St. Since BB+N field was installed, there is increased traffic from buses and parent pick-up. Bike lane and sidewalk are needed. Existing plans were discussed (Coolidge Ave. and Bike-Ped Plan) and it was suggested he communicate with DPW.

7. Discussion about bike lanes on Arsenal St, connecting with Western Ave. in Allston. Deb Petersen is spearheading it. Presentation on Western Ave tomorrow night at Jackson- Mann Community Ctr.

8. Next month: Hannah discussing possible event for the spring, need to discuss in December. Meeting with new City Manager: he would be happy to come. Send him an email and ask him to come. Possibly for February.

Next Bike-Ped Comm. Meeting: December 5, 2022 @ 7:30pm via Zoom, meanwhile sub-groups will meet.