



Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

City of Watertown
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ANDREW 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 January 10, 2022, 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, Cindy Wentz, Jamie Burke & Chris Heidelberger, Paul Gregory, Jeffrey Green, Bob Shay

Following are the meeting minutes:

1. December minutes approved
2. Committee Discussion:
 - a. Yard Art: March 4 – Apr 3. Last year 130 residents decorated yards. Aiming for 300 this year, registering people in January/February. Janet volunteered WBPC to organize walking and biking tours. Two workshops planned for January to help people manifest their ideas. Call for sub-group: Sheila, Janet & Maria, Andy & Jesse as time allows, focus on short rides and walks. Break it up for different neighborhoods. Possible sponsors & refreshments. Ideas for planning include Scavenger Hunt or Bingo.
 - b. Residential Snow Removal Ordinance: November meeting of Council Subcommittees on Rules and Ordinances and Public Works on residential sidewalk snow removal requirement. Vinnie Piccirilli said he is committed to the creation of requirements. Laura doing comparison with other towns. Issues: how long to allow people to clear; fines; exemptions. DCDP proposing that all places with a sidewalk should be shoveled. Once Council subcommittee has all info, will have public hearing then go to full Council. Input on fines & whose responsibility and who gets fined. Possible legal question on landlords' responsibility.
 - c. Charles River Rd DCR meeting report: Andy attended meeting. Mostly about park improvements, but one area on south side with no sidewalk, DCR will take part of roadway for sidewalk. Will keep bike lanes but narrow the buffer in that area.
3. Old business
 - a. Bike-Ped Implementation Plan: Laura, DPW release of street improvements plan for next year. Dan, Andy & Laura on Complete Street Committee. Some designs showing narrowing of streets.
 - b. Climate Action Plan (Amy, Andy & Laura): Amy reporting: draft of plan, feedback now from internal working group. Amy will take any feedback from WBPC members. Feedback to be incorporated. February is public comment period. Amy will send to members, send feedback to Amy or Laura.
4. New Business:

- a. New members: several people have applied to join but with manager Driscoll leaving the timing is unclear. Amy will speak on a presentation about being on town committees on Thursday.
- b. Wednesday public meeting to discuss manager search. Survey also available. Meeting will be hybrid--virtual and in person.
- c. Arsenal St reconstruction: going to be total reconstruction. Moving ahead with engineering quickly. May be deadline on spending the money. History: project started with athenahealth redevelopment & ICubed money, now going forward with MassWorks money and Arsenal on the Charles mitigation funds.
- d. Mt Auburn St reconstruction: no news. Where is the process? Can we check with DPW to see if anything we can do?

Next Bike Ped Committee Meeting Monday February 7, 2022 via Zoom