



Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

City of Watertown
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ANDREW COMPAGNA
JAMIE BURKE, CHAIR
SHEILA FAY
TOM FLORES
JESSE HAMMOND
AMY PLOVNIK
HANNAH RAKOFF
MARIA SAIZ
JENNY WANG

MEETING MINUTES

The **Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee** met on Zoom on **Monday January 8, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.** Present: Jamie Burke (chair), Sheila Fay, Jesse Hammond, Amy Plovnick, Hannah Rakoff, Maria Saiz, Thomas Flores, Jenny Wang, Zeke Mermell (staff)

1. Minutes accepted from December meeting
2. Working Group discussions:
 - a. Bike Parking Amendment update: Zeke talked with City Hall, new transportation intern (James) taking this on, looking at best practices from local area communities. Zeke can be conduit for info, and group will set up meetings going forward.
 - b. Cunniff St update: group working on getting a meeting and will discuss in future.
 - c. DPW: road reconstruction list posted on city website. DPW never responded to our suggestions. Request to Zeke to find out why no response, and what additional sidewalks they will work on. Also question regarding extension of Community Path near Moxley – will it connect to section across Main St. Dan had done some suggestions, also speed limit goes up after that, so need to make sure its safe.
3. March meeting – in person, City Manager Proakis will attend. Bring up to him:
 - a. Communication with the City, i.e. DPW and other departments, and opportunities to build/restore past coordination efforts.
 - b. How can we get involved earlier in the process regarding roadways, intersections, and input/agenda items. Ideas he has for BPC's involvement. Also, learning how the City makes decisions on how roadways get redesigned & worked on (e.g. economic considerations for street & sidewalk widths).
 - c. How BPC & City can effectively work together. What can we do to help his efforts where our interests align?
 - d. How does he get City departments to follow through on City Council directives, goals & vision, what is process? Pace, implementation and scope of change.
 - e. City commitments/operations/campaigns for sidewalk snow clearance (i.e. sidewalks of main arterials like Belmont St not cleared).

- f. Can we meet more regularly – maybe once a year?
 - g. Overview of what we have done over the years.
 - h. Any questions he wants to ask us.
- 4. Yard Art: happening in April. Sheila to head up bike tour. Jamie will connect Liz to Sheila.
 - 5. Watertown Family Bicycle Ride in 2024: Jesse reached out to organizer, gave him some contacts at Rec dept for access at Fillipello, and police. Seems to be moving forward.
 - 6. Member items:
 - a. Tom – bike rack images that are good for bikes. Chase Bank rack not approved rack – Zeke to discuss with City. Hannah suggestion: bike parking sub-group present to whole committee types of approved bike racks. Also make sure racks are installed correctly. Also parking for electric scooters – what to do with them? Is this within our scope?
 - b. Jesse: add on agenda in future: Arsenal Park & redevelopment there. Where is process and are our suggestions in the plan? Can we see final design?
 - c. Tom: visualizing narrowing roads by seeing how plowed areas show how much area is paved and not needed for actually driving. Also, accessibility issues around Cunniff because of plowed in areas.
 - d. Zeke: call for artists to submit art that is bike racks. Need 1-2 people from committee on be on jury to judge which get accepted. Maria interested. On next meeting agenda.
 - 7. City Council meeting tomorrow night on snow shoveling ordinance: 7pm tomorrow. Any messages sent in hopefully will be read out.
 - 8. Upcoming: Open Meetings training next week 1/16 at the Library.

Watertown Square Area Plan Public Meeting, February 29, 2024, at TBD location

Next Bike-Ped Comm. Meeting: Monday, February 5, 2023, on Zoom at 7:30pm. Meanwhile working groups will meet as needed.