



BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TOWN OF CHELMSFORD

PATRICIA E. DZURIS

TOWN CLERK

DATE: Thursday, July 18, 2019

TIME: 6:00 PM

PLACE: Town Offices ADDRESS: 50 Billerica Road ROOM: 200

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: J. Kelsey, T. Gazda, R. Schneider, M. Carignan, D. Antonelli, S. Pustell,

Absent: K. Taylor, R. Morse, R. Klinkhammer

Public Present: Dennis McNurland

Guests: none

Public Input

- Groundbreaking for Framingham/Natick/Cochituate Trail Friday July 19. Karen Spilka, Senate President and Stephanie Pollack, Secretary of Mass DOT are expected to attend.
- State plan for trails in general
- Phase 2B Bridge over Rt. 2 project on the BFRT is going out to bid July 31st
- Acton – Bursaw Oil donated an electric motorcycle to the Acton Police Department for trail patrol
- There will be a meeting in Lowell on the Awarded Trail Grant. The total is \$235k of which \$148K is the Trail Grant. This is a special grant because..... \$55 K is an in kind from various sources/Lowell and \$10K from the Friends.
- Gervais Auto has yet to sign agreement for the ROW behind their property.
- There is a small gap of a few hundred feet between Gervais and Target property that must be resolved.
- Bay Circuit Trail/Appalachian Mountain Club will tour that section of trail.

Announcements

- The three wheel electric motorized cycle observed on the trail between Greenwood Road and Maple Road by D. Antonelli was seen by the Police Department. Lt. Spence indicated that a patrol officer informed the person that the cycle was not allowed on the trail and that the person came to the Police Department to complain. He was shown the state law and the matter was considered resolved. No reports of this bike on the trail since then.
- T. Gazda encountered a PEBL Better Bike on the trail. It is an “assisted recumbent bicycle”. But the website <http://www.better.bike/> indicates it is a “Micro-car EBike.” T. Gazda also noted that the headlights on this conveyance are very intense and blinding to oncoming trail users and are not dimmable. T. Gazda contacted Lt. Spence regarding this bicycle who indicated this was not the previously encountered one reported by D. Antonelli.
- Police are in process of replacing bollard locks. More have been ordered.
- Trailside Ice Cream is open near the CCA

- Chelmsford Cyclery has closed

Update of Plans for Carol Cleven Park/Status of Grist Mill Project

- No update. Drainage and Utility work in progress.
- Need to get amenities onto the landscape plan and submit to Katz companies.

Status/Alternative Approach to Art Walk Restoration

- No update. Dennis McNurland to contact Cindy McLain. Need to submit a funding request to the Friends so the restoration project can move forward.

Update Second Trail Kiosk Project

- No action yet on site work by DPW. T. Gazda to stay in contact with DPW on scheduling.

Review of House Bill H 3014 –Electric Bikes, Document BPAC Position on Use on Trail

- J. Kelsey studied the bill and has a hard time limiting class 2 e-bikes on the trail. There is concern over other types of assisted bike type vehicles. Could some of the latter be banned from the trail by local ordinance? Maybe immediate course of action is to see how this legislation proceeds and see what happens before doing anything. It is difficult to cycle fast on the trail on weekends due to the volume of users. A question was raised as to whether e-bikes that do not require pedaling are considered to be motor vehicles. BPAC /J. Kelsey to draft letter regarding this bill for future discussion by the committee.

Review BFRT Event Registration for PCEA NEEMA Wellness Walk and Run

- BPAC had no issues with this event as planned. T. Gazda to respond with OK via the BPAC Gmail account.
- Review of the Sankara Health Care event registration which arrived on 7/18/19 indicated it will not enter Chelmsford. With it solely in Acton and Westford no action by Chelmsford is required other than to indicate that via the original registration submission that it is not relevant to Chelmsford.

Discussion of Possible Projects on the BRFT for the Boy Scouts

- J. Kelsey to talk to scout leaders to see if the projects are practical. His contact has been away for an extended period and will be asked about the previously discussed projects to determine viability.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – Regular Session June 20, 2019

Motion to approve as amended made by S. Pustell. Seconded by M. Carignan
Motion carried, no abstentions

Updates:

Trail Maintenance Program

- R. Schneider has been picking up trash along the trail noting that he is now finding paper straws on the ground. Perhaps people are thinking they are “biodegradable” but they are still trash.
- Trail needs mowing again. T. Gazda has sent a request to DPW on this matter.
- Cushing Place mowed on June 29 so it looked good for the July 4th events in the Center. Thanks to S. Pustell, M. Carignan, R. Schneider, R. Klinkhammer and T. Gazda.
- D. Antonelli and S. Pustell noticed a fire extinguisher deposited along the trail near the 4.6 mile marker but the next day it was gone
- D. Antonelli noticed that the Police pulled out an apparent camper/squatter near the Bartlett Trail entrance.

BPAC Account Status

- The amount of \$220 was paid out to United Site services for portable toilets on the trail for June, including cost of twice weekly servicing. New account balance is \$3,220.22. July invoices are not yet processed.

New Business:

- It was reported to T. Gazda by D. McNurland that several lights are out in the Rt. 3 tunnel on the trail and a protective cage was open on one of the fixtures. T. Gazda indicated that Mass DOT was again notified on this issue.
- Police on motorcycles are patrolling the trail as observed by M. Carignan.

Dates and agenda for future meetings/work sessions

Next Regular Session: Tentatively August 8, 2019 at 6:00 PM. Date change due to conflicting vacation schedules of several members.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 7:45 PM was made by S. Pustell and seconded by D. Antonelli. Vote: Unanimous