



BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 20, 2022

TIME: 6:30 PM

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

Meeting Minutes

Members Attending: T. Gazda, R. Klinkhammer, R. Schneider, M. Carignan, J. Kelsey, D. Antonelli,

Members Absent: S. Pustell, J. Haouchine Public Present: D. McNurland

6:30 Public Input

- D. McNurland reported that work on the BFRT Phase 2B bridge over Rt. 2 is on hiatus for the winter. Access is blocked off with fencing.

6:45 Announcements

- None.

7:00 Status of Bicycle Pump Replacement (J. Kelsey)

- J. Kelsey reported that the pump arrived in late December. It is made of stainless steel and is a lot slimmer than the old one. He plans to install it in the spring. Also noted was that disassembly of the old pump revealed it was almost completely worn out.

7:05 Further Discussion of Mass DOT Mural Policy

- T. Gazda asked D. McNurland to try to locate a copy of the agreement Lowell Parks and Recreation supposedly negotiated with Mass DOT to allow the "Aerosol Art" on the Lowell BFRT extension under the Lowell Connector bridges.
- S. Pustell was absent and did not provide any update to his efforts at community buy-in for possible art in the Rt. 3 Tunnel.

7:10 Discuss Possible Eagle Scout Projects Along the BFRT

- J. Kelsey reported that his contacts at the local Boy Scout troops are no longer involved. He did reach out to the local troops and they responded that they currently had no Eagle scout candidates or did not respond at all.

7:20 Pond Street Kiosk

- T. Gazda reviewed the restricted funds available for amenities at this site from the December meeting in the amount of \$338.50.
- Logo Signs and Donor Sign
- T. Gazda presented the cost estimate from Stay Safe Traffic Products. The cost of two BFRT Logo signs in black on white with anti-graffiti film is \$94.00 and the Donor sign in black on white with anti-graffiti film at \$35.00 for a total of \$129.00.
- The committee had some discussion about the brown on white reverse printed version and some members liked it. Consensus evolved that the black on white version would be consistent with the version of the logo used on other sections of the trail.
- There was consensus on the Donor sign for the kiosk.
- A motion to approve the purchase of BFRT Donor and Logo signs in Black on white for the kiosk was made by J. Kelsey and seconded by M. Carignan. Motion carries. No abstentions.

- Bulletin Board

- T. Gazda presented a recommended bulletin board. It is the Ghent Aluminum Frame/Recycled Rubber board of 36 inch by 46.5 inch dimensions. The recycled rubber is self-healing and the frame is anodized aluminum. It is available via Amazon. The current price shown of \$104.36 could change slightly but the cost will still fit within the available funds.
- Committee consensus was that this product would be suitable for the kiosk

- A motion to approve the purchase of the above described bulletin board for the kiosk was made by J. Kelsey and seconded by M. Carignan. Motion carries. No abstentions.

7:30 Cushing Place Kiosk

- T. Gazda recommended the same bulletin board (Ghent Aluminum Frame/Recycled Rubber board of 36 inch by 46.5 inch dimensions) as for the Pond Street kiosk to replace the current board in the kiosk. That board was never intended to be permanent as it is not designed to be used outdoors despite it standing up fairly well for about ten years. The BPAC account still has \$165.45 in funds available from the original funds donated by the Friends back in 2010 to cover the cost of \$104.36.
- The committee agreed that this board would be suitable for the Cushing Place Kiosk.
- A motion to approve the purchase of a new bulletin board for the kiosk was made by J. Kelsey and seconded by M. Carignan. Motion carries. No abstentions.

7:40 Update on Brick Donation Program for Carol Clevon Park (S. Pustell)

- No Update, S. Pustell was unable to attend the meeting.

7:50 Review/Update Discussion Items List for March Meeting with DPW (T. Gazda)

- The committee reviewed the 2021 list, deleted completed and no longer relevant items while adding new items for discussion.
- T. Gazda suggested adding the island area near the entrance to Brickhouse for discussion with DPW to see what can be done to create an area for a BFRT Logo Sign and possibly install some bike racks. It would need to be raised and protected by bollards to prevent damage from snow removal.
- Added to the list was the need to reinstall the Leath bench south of High Street. It is nearly 24 inches high from the ground where normal seat height is 16-18 inches.
- D. Antonelli suggested adding to the list concerns about pedestrian safety on Acton Road in the section across from Bartlett Park where a potential new housing development may be built. He noted that there have been issues with speeding vehicles and some severe vehicle accidents recently on this section of road.
- R. Schneider suggested adding an item to look at improved visibility of the actual surface of the trail crossings at major streets. There was subsequent discussion of bright painted crossings though these can be slippery, especially when wet.
- D. McNurland reported that the Friends have donated \$20,000 to the Town of Acton to fund a study on improving safety at trail crossings. It might be worth waiting for the results of that study to see what if any recommended visibility enhancements might be made to the trail crossings.
- The committee agreed to add some of the proposed action items from the 2020 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan to the document.
- J. Kelsey recorded changes and additions to the Discussion Items document and will distribute to the committee for finalizing at the February meeting.

8:20 Approval of Meeting Minutes from Regular Session on December 16, 2021

- A motion to approve the minutes of December 16, 2021 as presented was made by J. Kelsey and seconded by D. Antonelli. Motion carries. Abstentions by D. Antonelli and J. Kelsey.

8:25 Updates:

- Trail Maintenance Program (B. Schneider)
 - The trail was well cleaned this past fall. Storms have dropped many small twigs and they are frozen in ice now.
- BPAC Account Status (T. Gazda)
 - No change in the account status from December 2021.

BPAC email report (R. Klinkhammer)

- No incoming emails.

8:35 Future Meeting Dates and New Agenda Items

- Next Regular Session: February 17, 2022 (6:30 PM)
- New items for future meetings
- Dates and agenda for future meetings/work sessions

8:45 Adjournment

- A motion to adjourn was made by J. Kelsey and seconded by D. Antonelli. Unanimous vote.

Next Regular Session: February 17, 2022 (6:30 PM)