

Bicycle Pathway Ad Hoc Committee  
Minutes Thursday 2/18/2015 7pm  
Annex Conference Room  
Charlestown Town Hall 4540 South County Trail Charlestown,RI

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Jen Hodshon

2. ROLL CALL

Present at the meeting Jen Hodshon, Jen Demirs, Sherry Drude, Pat Fenton, Annie Campbell, Pat Lyons, Jonathon Hammett, Bill Wilson

Also present Park and Recreation Director Jay Primiano

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES 12/19/2014

Jen Demirs motioned to accept minutes as written from 12/19/2014 and Pat Lyons seconded the motion. All members were in favor

4. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Presentation by Jay Primiano-Parks and Recreation Director

Jay gave a great presentation about the positive attributes to using Ninigret Park for a start to our bike/walk/wheel/paths. With its rural green spaces, wide roadways already in place with limited traffic this could be the least expensive place to start. The park has gone through many upgrades and this would continue to enhance the area. Great for use by families on bikes scooters carriages and walking. Working with Steve McCandless and bringing his GIS mapping he outlined two routes. First was a loop of 1.3 for bike/wheel/walk the other 1.2 loop would be less developed surface and would be for walking. He brought with him a list of expenses for painting stencils bollards kiosks signage and annual upkeep for us to have an idea what the approximate costs could be. He suggested that we bring our plan to the next Park and Recreation meeting on 2/24/15.

b. A motion was made by Patrice Fenton to make a presentation to the Park and Recreation Commission on 2/24/2015. The presentation will show a GIS map of the park marking a 1.3 blue trail which will be bike/wheel/walk pathway and a 1.2 walking trail.

Motion was seconded by Pat Lyons and all members were in favor.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORT

a. Bill Wilson/John Hammett researched pathways surveys. This was a very preliminary search in that we still do not know where or what the bike/wheel/walk pathways are going to be placed and the total function of the pathways. Asphalt seems to be the most costly but might last longer. Further research is needed as our plan unfolds.

b. Bill Wilson Meeting with the Department of Transportation

Some highlights from the meeting were:

Bike paths were to be important to Raimondo

Bicycles support Recreation

Reduces traffic when used by commuters

Described as "Linear Parks"

Part of "complete streets" friendly to cars, walkers, bikes and traffic, buses

Business friendly-RI viewed as family friendly a good place to bring your business

Tourism more than a 1 season state  
Warren Bike Path-extended to CT  
East Bay Resurfacing-11 miles of payment this year  
Washington Bridge- to be completed this year  
Blackstone River Bikeway –Proposed cost \$ 1 m  
Federal funds maybe drying up and the state may think about a bond for the future  
Very constructive comments from environmentalists Dem and DOT regarding pathways

- c. Jen Demirs reported she has been in contact with CVS and South County Hospital. She felt there was a lot of positive comments about wellness and community involvement. Further contacts will be made as our needs become more clear.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Faith spoke with Don Rathbone-fire chief

Don said the Fire District owns the old fire station on Rt. 1A and Matunuck School House. They have no immediate plans. Will work with the Town if there is a use/need . The process is to get the residents of the tax district to approve any financial aspects to the use/need by vote with insurance being a consideration for expense. The lot is about 1/3 of an acre as he recalls (not absolutely sure) and no real ownership of the Pond. When mentioned the spot as a trail head he thought that would be OK but not his decision alone.

7. OLD BUSINESS—NO

8. PUBLIC COMMENT-NO

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH’S AGENDA TO JEN HODSHON BY A WEEK PRIOR TO MEETING

10. NEXT MEETING 3/18/2015

11. ADJOURNEMENT 8:30

Motion to adjourn made by Pat Lyons and seconded by Patrice Fenton