

BICYCLE PATHWAY AD HOC COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES 9/16/2015 at 7 p.m., ANNEX ROOM
CHARLESTOWN TOWN HALL 4540 SOUTH COUNTY TRAIL CHARLESTOWN, RI

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Faith LaBossiere.

2. ROLL CALL

Faith LaBossiere, Jen Hodshon, Jen Demirs, Annie Campbell, Jon Hammett, Patrice Fenton
Guest: Vicky Hilton (Charlestown Park and Recreation Director)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jen Demirs motioned to accept minutes of 7/15/2015 and 8/26/2015 and Jon Hammett seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

- a. Bradford Associates notified of Committee's recommendation. Mark Stankiewicz contacted them directly.
- b. Sheldon Whitehouse replied to Faith's letter about funding of cycle and pedestrian ways.
- c. To Town Clerk's office: Agenda automatically will go to Vicky Hilton, Director of Parks and Recreation; Tim Quillen, chair of P&R Commission; Tom Gentz, Town Council liaison
- d. Charlestown Police Department: Title 31 RI General Laws regarding Pedestrians and Bicycles. Faith spoke to Chief of Police Jeff Allen and this does not include specific language that pedestrians have the right of way (ROW). However, Faith spoke to an attorney who states that in fact the laws are written that pedestrians are given the right-of-way?

5. Guests: Vicky Hilton (Charlestown Park and Recreation Director) No comments.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Jennifer Hodshon: "Bike Safety Event": Jen reached out to Steve Devine of the Department of Transportation. He is no longer in charge of Bike Safety. He gave Jen contacts in the Traffic and Highway Safety Office and the Bike Office who are much more involved in these types of events. Jen has reached out to these folks and will report back next month. Jen also came across a great website via "Bike Maryland". It requires a membership fee to join. Jen will send the link to members and we can decide if we would like to join.
- b. Jonathan Hammett: Power Line ROW: Jon did some power line research. National grid is a multinational organization, not real helpful. Faith remembered that Sara Bradford's proposal had **the National Grid Easement Trail Feasibility** study in it. Bradford Associates may be able to help us in this area as we research pathways.
- c. Annie Campbell: Abandon "Seaview Railroad": Annie spoke with the head of the Pettaquamscutt Historical Society in Kingston last week. There was a railroad plan from Watch Hill to Narragansett back in 1887 which never came to fruition. She "Googled" it and found a great book called "Railroads of RI" by Frank Heppner where this was also referenced. Annie will learn more and get back to the group.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Resignation of Jennifer Hodshon as Vice Chair: Jen resigned as her workload has increased tremendously at Brown. Faith indicated the biggest part of this job was her coverage for the months she is away in the winter including preparing and running the meetings. Jen Hodshon made a motion to nominate Bill Wilson as the new Vice chairman. Jon Hammett seconded. All were in favor.
- b) Bradford Associates Landscape Architects:
1. Terms of the contract-see proposal
 2. Proposed schedule of work- Faith would like to request that the work be completed by March so we could be ready for National Bike Month in the beginning of May and for our ribbon cutting and Bike safety event.
 3. The BPAHC gave Faith authority for a kick-off meeting with the Town Manager and Bradford Associates landscape Architects 9/22/2015 at 1:00 p.m. She will ask Pat Lyons to attend with her.

8. OLD BUSINESS: Recommendations to Town Council for improved safety measures for existing by ways. Initial recommendations are for Charlestown, East and West Beach Roads.

- Electronic speed indicators (solar powered) (Charlestown BR has one and it is effective)
- Share The Road” signs at the beginning of each (West Beach has one)
- Electronic message boards where message can be changed periodically and moved from road to road: “Walkers have the ROW”, “Careful! Foot traffic heavy”, “3 foot clearance is RI Law”
- Icons for walkers and cyclists painted on the shoulder where room allows
- Add crosswalk hatching lines in areas where people are crossing: Corner of Charlestown Beach Rd and Matunuck School House, possibly other areas in consult with Public Works Dept.
- Signs at points along beach road warning to watch out for walkers and bikers. Ex:Nancy Lane to Matunuck School House corner
- Cut back grasses and bushes more, there are too many blind spots.
- Encourage the town to keep the designated riding areas on the sides of roads clear of road debris, nails/bolts, etc. For example, Route 1.
- Escalate awareness of RI's “3 foot law" re. Cars' providing clearance to bikes.
- Develop a “Rules of the Road” pamphlet for: renters, mailer when tax bills go out
- Article in the Pipeline and in the “Sun”

Next month these recommendations will be refined for presentation to the Town Council.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments were made

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH’S AGENDA: Send to Faith one week prior to next meeting

11. NEXT MEETING October 21, 2015 7:00 Annex Conference Rm.

12. ADJOURNMENT 8:15PM: Motion to adjourn made by Jen Demirs and seconded by Jen Hodshon

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Q. Hodshon (alternate secretary)