Scituate Bicycle Committee Meeting Minutes Sept 18, 2023

Opening meeting 9-18-2023 at 7:05 PM. The meeting is being recorded by Scituate TV

In Attendance:

Committee Members:

Nancy Werner Dan Hannigan Sarah Das Maura Tighe

Jeff Helm Mike Bowler (via Zoom)

Absent: Jon Belber

Liaisons:

Patrick Niebauer (via Zoom) (PLanning) Susan Gallagher (SHCC)
Chris Mason (via Zoom) (Beach) Berry Kurland (EDC)

Toby Briton SPD

NEW BUSINESS:

Nancy Werner welcomed the members as sworn in by the Scituate Selectmen. She read aloud the Town of Scituate Diversity and Inclusion Statement/Position.

Member introductions were completed.

Scituate Bicycle Committee Charge was reviewed; all 7 charges reviewed, discussed, and accepted.

Election of Officers: The following were nominated, seconded, and roll call vote taken:

Chair: Nancy Werner – all in favor

Vice Chair: Mike Bowler – Mike abstained. All in favor.

Clerk: Jeff Helm – All in favor Website editor: Maura Tighe – all in Favor

Officers confirmed.

Nancy reviewed the role of the committee, an advisory board to help initiate strategic ideas for implementing infrastructure and cultural events that will lead to a safer, more widely embraced biking community including finding and applying for grants.

OPEN MEETING LAWS – Nancy discussed processes and policies. Committee of 7, quorum is 4, subcommittees can exist.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT WORKSHEET REVIEWED:

- Bike Racks increase capacity at beaches, downtowns, retail and historic sites
- Bike Routes long term project, beginning with refurbishing existing, Safe to School,
- Recreational
- Bike Safety and Education Office Briton can assist
- Cultural Initiatives Rec; Historic, Sr Center, Sr Visitor Site Itineraries
- Funding Work Susan Gallagher and Sarah Das have experience writing grants

Updates from Office Briton:

Scituate Police Liaison - 7 yr. member. He is reviewing the rules for safety at the schools working with police for funding and grants available through the state to teach bike safety. Familiar with SAFE TO SCHOOLS PROGRAM. Two different grants are available: Infrastructure (1 mill) and Sights and Lines. (10K) Grant must have been submitted by October 1 so will miss this year.

Police Department has signage obtained through the DPW for the 4 ft space law – 20+ signs perhaps we can assist with placement.

WALK/ BIKE CURRENT ACTIVITIES IN TOWN:

October 4th. All four elementary schools are doing the 10-4 ride. Officers provide safety.

COMMITTEE INITIATIVES REVIEWED:

PHASE 1: SHORT TERM GOALS:

SIGNAGE - with DPW (SHARE THE ROADS SIGNS)

BIKE RACKS - Beach Commission

REC DEPT - Slo Rolls, Bike Rodeos

CONNECT WITH DPW AND SIDEWALK COMMITTEE

MAPC – Metropolitan Area Planning Council - works as a regional planning resource. Sr Traffic Planner, David Lautzenheiser can assist - Sarah Das to coordinate

REVIEW OTHER SUCCESSES IN ROUTE AND BIKE PLANNING - Salem Plan

TRAFFIC PLANNING FIRM - WEBDESIGNER FOLLOW UP (CRAIG MILLER) - Nancy

SAFE TO SCHOOLS ROUTES - School Committee connection - how to assist - Mike

Connect with SE Coordinator Colleen Pekul for training, resource info

FUNDING - CPC funding Oct 1 is deadline; assist Beach commission in funding request

TRAFFIC CALMING SOLUTIONS – part of Safe to School program grants- how to implement in Scituate

Pop-up routes; lower speed limits in potential route streets

COMMITTEE WEB DESIGNER – SOCIAL MEDIA - Determine platforms, high school papers, engage high school students

BIKE SAFETY - How to improve education, what to post where; Office Briton can assist POLICE ON BIKES – Coordinate with new activities that are to be planned

PHASE II: LONG TERM GOALS - Design Safe to School routes and additional rec; work routes

Infrastructure implementation of racks and routes in town

Connect to Wompatuck

Connect to Norwell and Cohasset

FUTURE MEETINGS: Agreed once a month and subcommittees can work together between meetings.

Monday nights at 7:00 pm recommended

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY OCTOBER 23RD – 7:00 PM Scituate Library Large Conference Room

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT, ALL IN FAVOR

Meeting adjourned 8:43 PM