

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee

May 24, 2018

7:30 p.m.

50 Carby Street

Committee Members Present: Steven Olanoff (Vice Chair); Bob Rich (Secretary); Kela Klosi; Rory Laughna; Paul Sicard; Jim McLaughlin;

Committee Members Absent: Todd Korchin; Michael Kraft (Chair), Abigail McCabe; Tom Prior; Stephen Botelho; George Lester;

Westwood Residents in Attendance: Kate Wynne (10 Cedar Hill Drive, prospective member) and Elaine De Reyna (221 Hartford Street)

Steve Olanoff called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

Trail Program:

Steve Olanoff gave an update on the trails program that he is organizing. This program would be administered by Hale Reservation as a Town-wide Community Trails program for maintenance, trail activity, and trail events using Town volunteers. Initial funding was approved by the Town Administrator to pay Hale Reservation to organize this effort. Hale will send a monthly report to the PBSC on recent hikes that they have organized and will attend a PBSC meeting twice a year to provide a program update. Elaine De Reyna indicated that her husband leads a weekly hike in the local area (Westwood, Medfield, Blue Hills, etc.) every week-end throughout the year and she will forward that information to Steve Olanoff.

DPW Updates (Todd Korchin via email)

North Street/Route 109 Complete Streets Project: Final Paving and finish work within the next 3.5 weeks. Project will be completed by June 30th.

Clapboardtree Street and Washington Street Left Turn Lane Project: Project underway and wall work is on-going. Prep work for new cement ADA sidewalks is underway with construction on-going throughout the summer.

Summer Paving Projects: Contract was Awarded to Lorusso Corporation for paving projects last week, which includes Stanford Drive, Summer Street, Westchester/Salisbury neighborhood. Summer Street will be receiving sharrow markings upon completion. Work will begin July 6th.

Gay Street Sidewalk Design: Design is at 30%. Public meeting is scheduled for June 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the Westwood Library. Please make every effort to attend.

Crosswalk Assessment: The Town has engaged with Beta Group to inventory, assess, and provide recommendations for ALL of our Town Crosswalks. This work has begun and we will have Beta in for a meeting as soon as the study is at a point for discussion. Recommendations could include ADA compliance, signage enhancements, improved markings, and cost estimates for these improvements. The cost estimate will be bundled together for the 2019 Spring Town meeting along with the Route 109 paving project.

Adaptive Traffic Signals for Route 109: This is a capital request going before the Spring 2018 Town meeting to fund the design of a new synchronized traffic signal program that will allow for improved traffic flow along

the Route 109 corridor. It is our hope that after design is completed the Town can pursue State funding (approximately \$450K) for implementation.

Police Department Updates:

There is a skin cancer screening from 10 am – 2 pm on May 25, 2018 at Senior Center.

The annual farmers market will be moving to a location between the town hall and the new police station this summer.

George and Virginia Lester were awarded the Roy London humanitarian award. The ceremony can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5E5wJcMkYI>. Mike Jaillet's introduction of George Lester begins at approximately the 30 minute, 30 second mark.

Dedham has now approved the new Massachusetts law that allows towns to limit traffic speed to 25 mph unless otherwise posted, and signs indicating this change are being put up in Dedham. Westwood would require a Town Meeting vote to allow this, but it is not on the warrant for the Spring Town Meeting.

East Street Bridge Improvement – is ongoing; construction will be shut down for three days (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) one week-end this summer (dates TBD) and one Saturday later on in the project (date TBD).

Westwood Resident

Elaine De Reyna has lived on Hartford Street for 21 years. She is concerned that traffic volume and speeds on Hartford Street have increased over the years. She is interested in traffic calming measures and/or better sidewalks/curbing to provide safe access. The current sidewalk on Hartford Street from High Rock Street to Wessex Street is at the same height as the road and does not have a berm or a curb. Bob Rich indicated that he was almost struck by a car driven by a distracted driver who was texting on his phone and drifted into the sidewalk. The committee discussed various options that could improve the situation, including better line painting, narrowing the road, traffic calming measures (e.g. islands), improved sidewalks that are elevated 6 inches above the road with a berm or a curb. Elaine was encouraged to discuss this topic with her neighbors on Hartford Street to get their input and then report back to the committee. The committee will then provide feedback prior to addressing her petition to the Board of Selectman.

The Committee adjourned at 9:10 pm.