

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee

August 30, 2018

7:30 p.m.

50 Carby Street

Committee Members Present: Michael Kraft (Chair), Steven Olanoff (Vice Chair); Jim McLaughlin; Rory Laughna; George Lester; Kela Klosi; Abigail McCabe; and Paul Sicard;

Committee Members Absent: Todd Korchin; Tom Prior; Stephen Botehlo; Kate Wynne

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm

Michael Kraft called the meeting to order at 7:30 Chair. Abby McCabe acted as the Recording Secretary in Stephen's absence.

Westwood Day – Planning for Booth

Westwood Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 29. Ms. McCabe said she will sign up the Committee for a table/booth. Steve Olanoff has coordinated with David White and he has again agreed to donate the helmets and let the Committee use his tent. George will bring the pedestrian/bike game he brings each year and gave the banner to Abby. Rory and Stephen will reach out to the local bike shops to see if they are interested in participating. Mike will send out a list of time slots for Westwood Day.

Public Works Updates: The East Street Bridge construction work is underway. Public Works has engaged BETA Group to perform a crosswalk evaluation of all crosswalks in town. This study is underway and will look at all crosswalks and review for safety, accessibility, and make recommendations.

Planning Board Updates – The Board of Selectmen heard a presentation in late July about the 30% design plans for the proposed Gay Street sidewalk, which presented two alternatives. The sidewalk on the north side of Gay Street was the preferred option. Members of this Committee were present. The Planning Board also met in early August and reviewed the sidewalk plans. The Planning Board and this Committee were supportive of a sidewalk along Gay Street and recommended a behind the wall option where possible. The Public Works Director attended the Planning Board meeting in August and informed the Planning Board the crosswalk study is underway. Mr. Olanoff asked if crosswalks at across driveways would be included.

New Items:

Mr. Olanoff informed the Committee that the monthly hikes should be coordinated by Hale soon under the new program. Hale will organize, promote and coordinate.

Items from Residents in Attendance:

Elaine de Reyna of 221 Hartford Street was in attendance. She informed the Committee that he is concerned about the amount of traffic and the high speed of travel of vehicles on Hartford Street. She performed a survey from the area residents and found resident support for various traffic calming and pedestrian safety measures. The major concerns and areas for improvement were for sidewalks, lack of crosswalks particularly across Hartford to Mayfair, car volume and speed, and truck travel. She asked about having a truck restriction.

The Committee informed Ms. De Reyna that the Board of Selectmen is the Road Commissioners and encouraged her to contact the Public Works Director Todd Korchin. The Committee informed her that they have a street and sidewalk improvement priority list and will check to see where and if Hartford Street is on that list. She submitted her letter and survey results to Ms. McCabe. The Committee will reiterate her concerns to staff and will continue the discussion at the next meeting on September 27th.

Minutes – The Committee voted to approve the minutes from June 28, 2018 as written.

The next meeting will be Thursday, September 27th right before Westwood Day.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Abby McCabe, Town Planner