

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee

June 22, 2017

7:30 p.m.

50 Carby Street

Committee Members Present: Steven Olanoff (Vice Chair); Bob Rich (Secretary); Tom Prior; Abigail McCabe; Paul Sicard; Rory Laughna; Enkelejda Klosi; Jim McLaughlin; George Lester

Committee Members Absent: Todd Korchin; Michael Kraft (Chair); Stephen Botelho

Meeting called to order at 7:45 pm

Old Business:

Westwood Day – Saturday, September 23

George Lester provided a sample of the banner material. George recommended that we hire Sign-O-Rama to make the waterproof banner for the booth. Bob Rich recommended having four images on the banner: walking, hiking, running and bicycling.

Trails and Sidewalk Update

The next step in the process to set up a trails and volunteer coordination program through Hale Reservation to promote more walking and hiking in our community is to speak with Mike Jaillet to ask about budget availability, which is estimated to be \$10,000 this year. The meeting with Mike Jaillet will be held on Wednesday, June 28th at 11:30 am at the Town Hall Selectman's room. Hale Reservation, the Westwood Conservation Commission, Westwood Recreation Department and the DPW will also be invited to attend.

Steve Olanoff noted that the Planning Board should specify in any future subdivision decision the following: 1) the length of sidewalks that will be waived within a new development, 2) the equivalent cost of the sidewalk(s) that the developer will pay the Town, 3) when that payment will be made, and 4) specify the conditions on how the money will be used. The uses should include new sidewalks, new trails, and the replacing of existing asphalt sidewalks with concrete.

We discussed a situation that occurred on Friday, June 16th, when the Route 128 train station lost power and there was no emergency backup lighting available in the station or in the parking garage, creating a potentially dangerous situation. After discussion, it was suggested that we contact the manager of the Amtrak 128 station to discuss.

DPW Update (Abby McCabe on behalf of Todd Korchin)

Complete Streets update: The Town recently completed the state-funded Complete Streets project to install a sidewalk along Route 109 from Mill Street to Mill Brook Road, reconfigured the intersection of High Street and Pond Street, and installed bicycle lanes on both sides of Blue Hill Drive. Todd Korchin submitted an application for a second round of Complete Streets funding to improve North Street and High Street (by Bubbling Brook) and Winter Street and Clapboardtree Street intersections.

Police Department Update – Paul Sicard

Detour signs have been put up on University Avenue where the railroad tracks are located near Yale Street. Construction materials have been dropped off. The purpose of the project is to widen the road at the RR tracks and to add sidewalks to match the previous reconstruction of University Avenue.

Planning Board and Community and Economic Development Update – Abby McCabe and Steve Olanoff

No new applications are currently coming up before the Planning Board. On Monday, June 19th, the Board of Selectman met and decided to move the Islington Redevelopment project forward. The Selectman will begin the process of entering into a memorandum of understanding agreement with the developer, Petruzziello Properties.

Berties Creamery will be opening up next to Islington Pizza soon.

The Brigham & Women's medical facility at University Station was approved by the Planning Board and new construction is expected to start in July.

New Items from Residents in Attendance

There were no new items from residents.

New Business:

The new Speed limit law was referred to Mike Jaillet for consideration by the Board of Selectman. This would lower the speed limit for non-posted streets in thickly settled areas.

The MassDOT Complete Streets Funding Program Project Prioritization Plan is a reference list on the Town website: <http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=28001>. Michael Kraft asked committee members to pick their top 3-5 project priorities and send them to Michael Kraft before the next meeting and he will assemble a list for discussion at our next meeting in July.

The minutes from the May meeting were approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 27th at 7:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.