

Pedestrian and Bike Safety Committee
September 24, 2020 7:30pm
Meeting Notes
Zoom

Board Members in attendance

- Michael Kraft (Chair)
- Enkelejda (Kela) Klosi (Vice-chair)
- Heather Ford (Secretary)
- Steve Olanoff
- Kate Wynne
- George Lester
- Rob Gotti (Planning board)
- Alex Yale (Potential new member)

Ex-officio members

- Abby McCabe and Todd Korchin

Residents in attendance:

- Vicky Maldives, Elaine de Reyna 221 Hartford Street, Dave Atkins (Planning Board)

Call to order by Chair Michael Kraft at 7:36pm

- **Elections of Officers:**

- Steve nominated Michael for Chair. Michael was voted in unanimously as Chair.
- Heather nominated Kela for Vice-chair. Steve nominated himself. Heather, Rob, Kate, Kela and Michael voted for Kela, Steve voted for Steve. Kela was voted in as vice-chair.
- Heather was selected to continue as the secretary.
- Rob, as the new Planning Board representative, asked who else is on this committee if anyone was missing. George Lester was missing (he later arrived at 8pm). There continues to be no Police Department representative on the committee since Officer Sicard left in 2019. The committee has hoped to have a meeting at the Police Station in the future, and also to have Town Administrator Chris Coleman come to a future meeting.

- **Planning Board Updates:**

- Phase two of Brigham and Women's plan was approved. Steve's previous concerns were resolved.
- There have been no new applications. Fall Town meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.

- Abby informed the committee that there is an upcoming medical uses (drug treatment center and hospital) zoning article, as that is not clearly defined at present.

Comprehensive Plan updates:

- Steve Olanoff and Jack Wiggins will be speaking on this issue and will present an update to the Planning Board soon. Steve and Kate are on the comprehensive plan update committee and have sought committee approval on them.

Public Works Department Updates:

- Todd reported that a lot has been accomplished over the last several months. Dover and Conant Roads have been paved. Phase one of Route 109 paving has finished. The corridor is now up to ADA compliance.
- Dave Atkins asked about the effectiveness of flashing lights. Todd mentioned that Mill St has been a test site. A grant has been applied for regarding crosswalks.
- Steve mentioned that the Bond Bill passed at Town Meeting in May 2020.
- Todd is meeting with Chris Coleman about the crosswalk study soon. Todd recommends using the appendix whilst reading the study.
- Kate brought up her concerns regarding the importance of constructing the Gay Street sidewalk, and the importance of a town connection. Children in the area should have a safe way to walk home from the Middle and High School as this is a crucial safety issue.
- Michael noted that during COVID-19 could be a good time to pursue these issues and sidewalk requests due to people walking more.
- The committee asked about the crosswalk study and providing it to this committee to review before going out to bid. Todd said he'd like to review the draft study with the Select Board first. Committee asked if the consultant could present the study to this group.
- There was a question about Hartford Street and Todd responded that some sidewalks will be in phase II in the spring/summer 2021.
- There was a question related to more street lights on Nahatan Street when heading into Norwood. Todd responded that there is a request into the Select Board.
- A member noted that the line repainting on High Street was not good for bicyclist because the shoulder was removed to create two vehicle lanes.
- **Meeting Minutes** from January and February were approved.
- **Schedule Next Meeting Date** – October 22.

The Committee voted to adjourn at 9:05pm by Heather, seconded by Michael.