

**Town of Westwood  
Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Committee  
Thursday, May 27, 2021  
Meeting via Zoom**

Committee Members in Attendance: Chair Michael Kraft, Vice-chair Kela, Secretary Heather T. Ford, Police Officer Steve Conley, Jeffrey Silva, and Kevin MacDonald, Alex Yale, Steven Olanoff.

Ex-Officio Members in Attendance: Planning Board Kate Wynne

Residents: Dave Atkins, Alan Law

Guests: Mike Chinitz

Chair Kraft called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm and announced that the meeting would be recorded via Zoom.

New Business and Guest Speaker Mike Chinitz

- Mr. Chinitz spoke about his bike accident experience. He emphasized the importance of bicycle maintenance with good brakes because they are necessary for bike safety. He emphasized that cyclist education is very important. Mr. Chinitz recommended bicycles have to have reflectors when sold. Blinkers (red/white) very important for safety.
- He discussed helmets with a chinstrap, and following the rules of the road on bikes: bike lanes for bikes only. Don't stay too close to the curb, ride single file, follow speed limits-- speed kills on bikes.
- Pedestrian runner cyclist: automobile insurance UMUI covers potential accidents
- MK--how can our committee improve bicycle safety in Westwood? MC--publicize resources, modify page. Reach out to bike shop for Westwood Day.
- Motorist passes cyclist on the left, take right-hand turn
- SC--Right hook law? Where they hit on the car. Rte 109.Rte 1A stacked traffic
- MK--safe driving
- EK--Put in schools?
- MK--put on site.
- SC--stated he could do research on Westwood bike accidents.
- MK--spoke about how incremental change happens on this committee and how the police department is important in that.
- KW--Winter St and Clapboard tree intersection? changes?
- MK--become a "T" intersection

[Chinitz presentation link](#)

New business from residents in attendance

There were no new items.

Police Department Updates:

- SC--spoke to addressing citizens' concerns and speed signs. Looking to improve signage near Hanlon.

Planning Board Updates:

- KW--Planning board has an open seat; she is now our liaison.

Public Works Updates:

- KW praised new crosswalks' visibility.
- SO--noted increased police presence on Everett St due to Amazon and other trucks.
- EK--spoke about DC crosswalks, will email MK

Westwood Community Trails and Earth Week Update

- SO--Westwood Community Trails trash pick-up was a success.

Review draft meeting minutes from 4/22/21

- Minutes approved

Adjourn by 8:30-8:45 pm

- Adjourned 8:50pm, next meeting June 24