

Town of Westwood

Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Committee
Thursday, January 26, 2023
Carby Street
Champagne Meeting Room

Committee Members in Attendance:

- Steven Olanoff (Vice Chair)
- Tom McShane
- Michael Kraft (Chair)
- Michael Tinsley
- Maria Constantini

Ex-officio: Patrick Ahearn, Town Counsel

Residents in attendance: None

Police officers in attendance: None

Selected to record minutes: Tom McShane

Meeting Start: 7:34 pm.

Topics Discussed

Updates from Police summarized via email:

- New data collector with vehicle type has been setup on a few roads. Washington St and East St intersection has a lot of foot traffic, and many people are not using crosswalks. Lots of data is being collected through these signs for various areas.

Bylaw Revision

- Patrick Ahearn recommended a majority over the minimum of 3 in order to not dilute membership.
- Clarification regarding ex officios, participation, and voting.
- Steve raised the point there have been various names for the current Pedestrian and Bike Committee, some including 'Advisory' and some including 'Safety'. Pat Ahern stated that given the original intent, the name should contain 'Advisory' as the committee's core function is to advise the planning and select boards.
- Chairman Kraft raised a motion to approve the bylaws, seconded by Maria, and there was a unanimous vote to approve by the 5 attending members.

New 4 Foot State Law

- Chairman Kraft raised a new statute recently passed requiring 4-foot clearance given to bikers and pedestrians. It is unclear to which

streets this would apply. Mr. Ahearn recommended the police be consulted with respect to implementation.

Updates from Todd Korchin (via email)

- Progress regarding grants and design for Canton St.
- A grant was received for additional crosswalk signs with solar powered flashing lights.
- A grant was received for improved synchronization of traffic lights from Rt 128 through Hartford St.

Westwood Community Trails from Steve Olanoff

- Steve reported on recent hikes, including a very successful January hike with 24 people, many of them participating for the first time.
- Several improvements were made on the town website to highlight and improve accuracy for the work the Committee and the hiking program perform.

New Business/Concerns By Residence In Attendance: None

Approval of last Meeting's Notes: Motion made by Chairman Kraft to approve, seconded by Tom McShane. Michael Tinsley approved, and Maria abstained.

Next Meeting Date: February 23, 2023

Meeting Adjourned: 8:27 PM (Motioned by Maria, seconded by Tom)