

Town of Westwood

Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee
Thursday, August 24, 2023
Carby Street
Champagne Meeting Room

Attendees:

- Chair Michael Kraft,
- Vice-Chair Steve Olanoff
- Kate Wynne
- Dave Atkins
- Tom McShane

Residence in attendance:

Fred Van Wagennen

Meeting Start at 7:32

Topics

Update from police: None

Updates provided from Planning Board

Kate provided an update that the Xaverian Brothers school provided their first plan for an additional parking lot for review by the planning board capturing a preliminary set of ideas.

Canton St Sidewalk Construction Project

Feedback was received from resident Mr. Van Wagenen that there is support for sidewalks but there was concern about the width of the bike paths. 11 trees in one property would be lost in one particular case. Loss of trees is a concern, as well as shortening of a yard, by 16 feet. Michael Kraft inquired if the DPW team had marked the trees. Fred mentioned some stakes were applied, but he is not aware of any trees having been marked. Fred mentioned a concern of a lack of stop signs on the path. The history of options provided by the state for fulfilling

their requirements was provided by Steve. Kate shared her opinion about the potential benefits for kids having sufficient lighting and clear sight lines for children using the sidewalk. Michael explained the 3 high level options and funding. Fred and Steve discussed whether the buffer space between the road and sidewalk needed to be 6 feet wide. Fred also mentioned there's concern about people using e-bikes that can be used at a greater rate of speed. Dave suggested it may be helpful for more concrete steps to be taken to provide residence on Canton St with clearer examples of what would and would not be removed for trees and for some markings to be added. Steve recommended the committee form a position before the meeting for the Canton St. project. Various members shared and contributed their opinions.

Everett St Project

Steve provided an update that good progress is being made for the project for access to the front of the project along Everett Street. Steve is concerned with the prospects for a proposed pathway from the rear, access to it for pedestrians, and the route through other properties to connect with an existing path.

Westwood Day

Steve signed the Committee up for a booth at the event. A CORI form needs to be completed by those manning the booth ahead of the event. Kate is speaking to Landry's. Michael is securing a tent. The team will share various time slots to cover the 10 AM to 3 PM time window.

Next Meeting Date: October 26, 2023

Meeting Adjourned: 9:04 PM