

Bicycle Pedestrian Committee
Minutes – January 19, 2010
At TOWN HALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM.

Members Present

- Matthew Flusser, Village
- Judy Mage, Village
- Alan Stout, Town
- Bill Weinstein, Town
- Peter Kaufman, SUNY New Paltz

Liaisons Present

- Terry Dungan, Village
- Margaret Human, Town Planning Board

Visitors

- Justin Dates
- Clark Peaslee
- Chris Robins

Public Input

None

Announcements

- Bill reminded the committee that we still have an opening for a Village representative.
- The committee thanked Alan and Margaret Stout for hosting December's get-together.

Old Business

1. *Connector Path – Cherry Hill (Plum St.) ⇔ S. Putt Corners Rd.* (Jim Hyland) Nothing to report.
2. *SUNY New Paltz (benches for LOOP bus; loan of in-street signs)* Nothing to report.
3. *Bicycle Parking at Thruway Park & Ride.* Bill will continue to follow up.
4. *Bike-ped path to Fairgrounds.* Nothing to report.
5. *Bike Shelter at Route 32N Park and Ride.* Terry Dungan reiterated that the shelter for the bike parking at this park and ride was not included in DOT money for the project. He isn't sure what to do at this point. He wondered whether he should ask the Village DPW to erect a wooden structure instead. The committee did not voice an opinion at this meeting.
 - a. *Bus service at the park and ride.* The park and ride is not a regularly scheduled Trailways stop. However, drivers are required to stop when flagged and passengers may request to be dropped there. The committee should get the word out about this. One can buy the ticket on the bus, although it costs a little more.
6. *Kids' bike event on the carriage trails.* Nothing to report.
7. *Clark Peaslee's table display.* Clark brought in one of his great table displays for everyone to see. He and Bill will get together and organize them with better visuals.
8. Letter from Heather Rauch about in-street sign at Stewart's. *Bill has been trying to reach her.*
9. *New Paltz middle school renovations.* Bill reported that the Board of Education read our resolution aloud at a recent meeting and made it part of their record.
10. *Adopt-a-Crosswalk.* Nothing to report.
11. *Soliciting letters from pedestrians hit by cars in New Paltz.* Only one pedestrian in this group still lives in New Paltz. Bill and Terry are conferring about how best to proceed.
12. *Crosswalk inventory (Judy M.)* Judy Mage put together an inventory of places that need crosswalks, which is attached. Terry reminded the group that, to create a crosswalk, it costs an estimated \$15,000 to create curbscuts, lay down striping and install a sign. Terry asked that the committee forward the list to him, which he will present to the Village engineer as a preliminary to approaching Senator Bonacic or Assemblyman Cahill for funding for these intersections. ***Get list to Terry.***

New Business

1. *Communication from Mike Neilson, new Highway Superintendent.*
 - a. He and Alan will confer about storing portable bike racks at the highway garage.
 - b. *Planning shoulders/sidewalks for Christ/Black Creek Development, off Schreiber Lane.* This new development is considering putting in a 5-foot bike lane as a shoulder. Bike lanes rather than sidewalks would be easier for his crews to clear after snowstorms. He has asked for committee input. During committee discussion, we agreed that we did not have a coherent policy about this based on national norms and guidelines.
 - i. The committee agreed to learn more about these guidelines.
 - ii. Alan said he would send the committee the Sidewalk Master Plan for future discussion.
 - iii. Peter Kaufman will research standards on marking the boundaries of bike or bike-ped lanes.
 - iv. Alan urged the committee to recommend that all treatments to roads (i.e., bike or bike-ped lanes) be one-way, applied symmetrically on both sides of the road.
2. Bicycling promotion, SUNY New Paltz (Matt Flusser) *Matt is working with General Mills ,the cereal company. Promotion to encourage students to ride bikes on campus to class. Can win bikes and bike-related things like backpacks, water bottles, toolkits, and tee shirts. The promotion will be in dining halls in February. He notes that there is still a dearth of bike racks on campus.*
3. *Bike scavenger hunt.* Clark Peaslee proposed a bike scavenger hunt to raise the visibility of bikes in New Paltz. To raise visibility of biking in the community as well as sympathy for biking. The details are yet to be fleshed out, but it would involve teams of 2-4 people, of all ages and ability levels. The City of Portland has done something like this, providing clues by taking pictures of various spots. Participants would then take pictures of the spots to prove they had arrived there.
 - a. Peter Kaufman noted that this was done in New Paltz five years ago by an underground group.
 - b. Bill and Clark will meet to discuss the proposal, hopefully with Doug Havnaer.
4. *Bike-ped road surface task force. A proposal.* Tabled to next meeting.
5. *Bike Month 2010 in May.*
 - a. Matt Flusser: one restaurant is already interested in Eat to Ride / Ride to Eat, but feels the event needs more planning and publicity.
 - b. The April meeting is when most of the planning should take place. This means the committee needs to begin discussing this online.
 - c. Bill will contact Eric Kollenberg to see if he's interested in leading the Eat to Ride again this year.
6. Bike Parking Ordinance (Bill/Alan)
 - a. Alan will confer with Jonathan Wright to learn best way to proceed.
 - b. Bill will talk to Jane Ann.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm.

The next meeting of the committee will be on Tuesday, March 16 at Town Hall.

ADDENDUM TO MINUTES: Crosswalk Inventory, presented to the committee by Judy Mage

- A. Existing crosswalks with crosswalks warning signs
 - 1. P&G's Main Street crossing
 - 2. Oakwood Main Street crossing (needs some repair of curbcuts, especially north side)
 - 3. Rail Trail Main Street crossing (roadway in poor condition, needs repair)
- B. Existing crosswalks without crosswalk warning sign needing such a sign
 - 1. Route 32 between Stewarts and the new park and ride (A sign visible to drivers approaching from the north might slow them down and deter them from bypassing stopped cars on the right where the bus stops.
 - 2. Route 32 at Broadhead, at the Salvation Army. Needs curbcuts for signs.*
- C. Non-marked crosswalks that should be marked, and should have crosswalk signs
 - 1. The most important is Mulberry Street, which has a crosswalk that has been painted over. This is a crossing used by children and adults who live on Huguenot Street to get to Moriello Pool, and also to have access to the deli a block south. There are existing curb cuts that would permit wheelchair access, one in front of Joey's Taxi, the other to the sidewalk off Mulberry Street on the east side. Therefore it should be possible to get a permit from DOT, with some effort to get them to recognize the existence of these curbcuts.*
 - 2. Duzine Road and Main Street would be a very good site for a marked crosswalk. If you could consider the wide driveway into the Ride Aide / Blockbuster lot as wheelchair access, you would not only give pedestrians living north of Main Street safer access to Rite Aide and Blockbuster, but within a block's walk on the sidewalk they could get to Ulster Savings Bank. [NOTE: The committee was informed at the meeting that driveways cannot function as curbcuts.
 - 3. Prospect Street from the bus terminal to the strip mall across Main Street that contains Tommy's Deli and a laundromat. Again, if the driveway can be considered an alternative to curbcuts, it would need only one cut, or perhaps none.

*NOTE: The combination of crosswalks and signs at Stewarts, Mulberry Street and Broadhead would be likely to significantly slow traffic coming into New Paltz from the north, and heading out from the south, where cars tend to pick up speed.

Any other suggestions are welcome.