

**Bicycle Pedestrian Committee
Minutes – November 16, 2010
At VILLAGE HALL**

The meeting was called to order shortly after 7:00 pm.

Members Present

- Village Members: Justin Dates, Matthew Flusser, Judy Mage
- Town Members: Jackie Andrews, Alan Stout, William Weinstein

Liaisons Present

- Shari Osborn, Village Board

Public Input

None

Announcements

- Bill mentioned that he did not request funding in the 2011 Town Budget for a committee secretary. He plans to ask committee members to take the minutes on a volunteer rotating basis. Matt Flusser, lacking a pen this evening, said he would take the minutes at the next meeting. Alan Stout volunteered to take these minutes.

Old Business

1. *Bike Lockers @ Thruway Park and Ride* – The project is hung up because neither Trailways nor the Thruway Authority wants the responsibility of shoveling the sidewalk that leads to the bike parking. Bill is working with Town Highway Supervisor, Mike Neilson to see if he is willing to take on this chore.
2. *Discount Program for Cyclists (Five-Mile Challenge)* – Joe Bergstein is pursuing this idea with the Chamber of Commerce.
3. *South Putt Repaving/Shoulder Project* – Bill is staying on top of this. Currently the project is awaiting various approvals at the County level.
4. *Complete Streets* – Mike Neilson, Town Highway Supervisor, is planning to sponsor a day-long Complete Streets workshop to be conducted by Cornell University. The workshop will be free to Town of New Paltz residents with a nominal charge to outsiders. (Post-meeting note: The workshop will be held on February 8.)
5. *Complete Streets II* – Supervisor Hokanson has indicated that she opposes incorporating the term *Complete Streets* into the new Comprehensive Plan for the Town. She says she does not necessarily oppose Complete Streets concepts but that the term implies potentially burdensome budgetary impacts. Bill plans to speak to Joe Bergstein who also sits on the Comprehensive Plan committee. Bill will emphasize that the BikePed Committee favors inclusion of the term *Complete Streets*.
6. *Hudson Valley Rail Trail ↔ Wallkill Valley Rail Connection* – Bill sitting in with the Southern Ulster Alliance committee that is conducting a feasibility study. The consultant is currently working to define a suggested route, which entails understanding the synergies and obstacles encountered at each decision point, whether geographical or infrastructural.
7. *Route 208 pavement repair; response letter from NYSDOT* – Bill will write a letter to NYSDOT thanking them for their response but indicating that the road is still dangerous for cyclists.
8. *Letter from Lois Cohn re: crosswalk @ Rail trail/Plains Road* – Mayor Dungan responded to Ms. Cohn about the situation and thanked her for her input.
9. *Bikeshare Program* – Persons affiliated with Alta Planning and Design are have suggested that New Paltz apply to be one of three locations for a pilot, state-of-the-art bikeshare program. Bicycles would be rented for a nominal fee at solar-powered vending stations by use of a credit card. Bikes are GPS-tracked, limiting theft and vandalism. Bill spoke to Craig Shankles, one of the directors of *Bikes That Heal, New Paltz's existing bikeshare program*. Gerry Zimmerman, moving spirit behind *Bikes That Heal*, has held extended conversations with Alta Planning to see if they can coordinate their efforts. That New Paltz has a pre-existing program makes our community an attractive candidate for this pilot.

10. *BOCES ↔ Agway Connector Path* – Alan said the project is currently at a stand-still due to uncertain ownership of parts of the right-of way. Shari suggested that he write a letter to the Village Board to spur quicker action..
11. *Bike Safety Tips brochure* – Everyone agrees the brochure is wonderful. Discussion revolved around, a) How to get them printed, b) How to distribute efficiently. Alan mentioned that Doug Havnaer, the brochure’s author indicated that he plans to revise the layout using a new software program. Alan will contact Doug about that plan. We would like to have brochures for National Bicycle Month next May.
12. *Worm & Apple* – There was discussion but no resolution of the idea to publicly recognize the good and the bad in our community in regard to Bicycle-Pedestrian policy. The committee is leaning more toward writing letters of thank-you and commendation rather than dwelling on the negative (“the worm”).
13. *Topics not discussed* – Bike Parking Ordinance, Liaison to Rail Trail Extension Committee, BikePed path to Fairgrounds, Long-Term Goals.

The meeting adjourned shortly before 9:00pm.

The next meeting of the committee will be on Tuesday, January 18, tentatively at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Alan Stout.