

**Bicycle Pedestrian Committee
Meeting Minutes– May 17, 2011
At Town Hall**

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM.

Present

Justin Dates, Village
Matt Flusser, Village
Judy Mage, Village
Alan Stout, Town
Bill Weinstein, Town
Jane Ann Williams, Town Liaison

Not in attendance

Kevin Caskey, SUNY
Clark Peaslee, Town
Brian Wallace, Town

Public Input

None.

Announcements

Old Business

1. **Exit 18 Park and Ride bike-parking facility:** Bill reports that NYSDOT expects ground to be broken for the bike-parking installation at the Exit 18 Park & Ride in the near future.
2. **Guidelines for constructing bike-parking facilities under proposed Town bike-parking legislation:** The committee recommends that the Town buy the PDF of the latest edition of the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycling Professional to leave in the Planning Board and Building Inspectors office.
3. **Highland Rail Trail / Wallkill Valley Rail Trail link:** Bill reports that the draft feasibility study is at the end of the editing process. Toni has scheduled its public debut for this coming Thursday, May 19, at the Town Board meeting. Residents along the extension of the Highland Rail Trail have expressed fears about the proximity of their properties to the trail. Jane Ann noted that similar fears are expressed all over the country when trails are created, and once they are, property owners find that this proximity increases their property values.
4. **Connector path from BOCES to Agway.** The committee continues to be interested in this topic. We will refer it to the new Village Board.
5. **Bike-safety brochure and bike master plan.** Bill will ask Doug about the bike master plan.
6. **Monthly or bimonthly letter of praise to newspaper.** We've had one such letter, thanking the police department for its acquisition of its new electric road sign. The next letter will be a thank-you concerning Eat to Ride.
7. **South Putt project.** Justin will ask Toni for an update. Bill will contact Dennis Doyle.
1. **Clearing snow and ice from sidewalks during winter, and vegetation during summer.** Jackie and Mastt will meet with appropriate Village staff during June.
8. **Wilmore Project (SUNY New Paltz campus extension).** Jane Ann reports that the Town Board met with Mike Moriello and the developer last night. Mr. Moriello says they have increased pedestrian trails to augment connectivity to the college campus proper. The north entrance has been changed to connect more to the campus. Jane An asked about bike-parking facilities; the developer offered assurances that they are sensitive to this issue. Jackie said that no one on campus wanted to see more motor-vehicle traffic.
9. Grant application by Judy Reichler and committee support (See next page.)
10. **Distracted driving.** The committee remains interested in this issue.
11. **Town map generated by Clouser Engineering and its relevance to bike-ped issues.** Alan did not receive a response to his letter. Mr. Clouser will be at next week's TIC meeting and Alan will speak to him.
12. **Eat to Ride / Ride to Eat and other Bike Month activities.** Bill thanked the committee for its extraordinary efforts.
13. **Streetlights inventory.** The Transportation Implementation Committee has asked the bike-ped committee for its response to the list of streetlights recommended for removal. Jackie Andreas spoke about her mild dismay ast

seeing so many lights in the Cherry Hill area on the list. She will write to the TIC as a private citizen (i.e., not on behalf of the committee).

New Business

1. **July's meeting.** Bill will be on vacation during the next scheduled meeting, in July. The committee is willing to meet the week earlier. Bill will inquire about a meeting space.
2. **Uses for the police department's new electric sign.** The committee will suggest to the NPPD about placing the sign at crosswalks like Oakwood, on Main Street between the Walkkill bridge and the rail trail, in front of Gateway on North Chestnut, and just south of Southwilde. Another message that could be put on the board would be about texting while driving: no more texting!
3. **Bill's note about Main Street sewer gratings.** Bill wrote to Toni several days ago about dangerous sewer gratings on Main Street. We are waiting to see DOT's response.
4. **Glow-in-the-dark vests for SUNY New Paltz students.** It was suggested that the college might consider distributing night-visible vests for college students walking from the dorms and off-campus housing along Rotue 208 at night. Jackie Andrews said she would follow up.
5. **Bill will meet with Jason West and the new Village trustees next week.** The committee suggested the following topics as priorities for the committee.
 - a. BOCES-Agway connector. (Transportation Land Use study: extend sidewalk north from Agway.)
 - b. Clearing ice and snow during winter; vegetation in summer: shrubbery and poison ivy
 - c. Crosswalks. Continue Terry's agitation.
 - d. Let Jason know that crosswalk signs can stay out because there's no requirement that they be taken in.
 - e. Draft of bike-ped survey. See next item.
6. **New Paltz bike-ped survey.** Jackie Andrews and Justin Dates presented a draft of a bicycle-pedestrian survey that asks New Paltz residents about their use of biking and walking around our community. The committee offered comments and they will write another draft.
7. **Can New Paltz become a walk-friendly community?** <<http://fastlane.dot.gov/2011/04/walk-friendly-communities.html>>.No action on this item.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM.

Next Meeting – originally scheduled for July 19, 2011. Date needs to be changed.

*** Village Hall***

From the blog of Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood

April 27, 2011

Walk friendly communities offer residents a gas-saving, healthy alternative

In this time of high gas prices, it's important that we give Americans options for getting where they need to go. One way to do that is by fostering livable communities where people can choose to leave their cars behind and safely walk where they need to go.

To encourage communities to make walking safer, the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center ([PBIC](#)) introduced its [Walk Friendly Communities](#) program. And yesterday, with support from the Federal Highway Administration and FedEx, the PBIC recognized the [first 11 cities](#) to earn that designation for improving walkability and pedestrian safety.



Charlotte, NC

The Obama Administration believes it's important to recognize cities for creating an environment that helps cut down on fuel costs for working families. Supporting community efforts to offer residents the transportation options they seek is a terrific way to ensure these efforts continue.

When you're walking instead of driving, you're not just saving money on gas today. You're adopting a lifestyle that can save you money and improve your health throughout your life.

And when families have a safe option for staying active, that helps us meet First Lady Michelle Obama's goal of [reducing childhood obesity](#).



Congratulations to the [11 communities](#) recognized by the PBIC. I know your residents are benefiting from your efforts to improve walkability and safety.

Now, for those who want their own communities to develop similar efforts, the Walk Friendly Communities website offers a [great tool for evaluating](#) walkability and pedestrian safety. The online survey includes questions about your community's efforts in engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement, evaluation, and planning.

The [next round of applications](#) will be open from May 1 through June 15, 2011. Will your city be the next to be recognized?