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Minutes

March 9, 2020

Attendees: Jeffrey Stein, Ronald Degray, Elaine Bartley, Jonathan Sainsbury and Allen Friedrich (acting as Secretary in the absence of Dennis Desmarais).

1. Town update:

Jeff Stein reported on the 1/9/20 Bike Advisory Group meeting.

1. Dan Pennington, Town Engineer, reported on the House Street-Western Boulevard Trail. There is a delay on trail construction due to hibernation of box turtles. Plans are being considered to extend sidewalks from the Western end to the existing sidewalk on Western Boulevard and from the junction of Western and Eastern Boulevards to Addison Road. Also, a crosswalk and three-way stop at Western and National Boulevards are being considered. Combined with existing sidewalks, it will create a continuous walkway to the Smith School trail. Also budgeted is street striping and signage for bicycles from the House Street end of trail through the Community Center Corridor. Dan will share the year’s paving list for our input for striping. The state still plans construction of the Putnam Bridge connecting trails in 2021.
2. Main Street Sidewalk (Buttonball Lane to Water Street) Project has been delayed due to the need for additional funding for retaining walls.
3. Bike Friendly Community Survey Results were reviewed and summarized.
4. Deb Dauphinais is looking for ideas to present to the Zoning Board while they are evaluating modifications to the layout of Fox Run Mall. A bike rack for the other end of the mall? Its on the route from the western end of the House Street-Western Boulevard Trail to the Putnam Bridge connection.
5. Age Friendly Community Survey completed. The town will be following up with focus groups.
6. Non-Profit Summit

Allen Friedrich attended and reported. This meeting was sponsored by TALK. Christine Gulotta was researching how non-profits could work together to assist each other in attaining their goals. Found that there were hundreds and invited them all to the summit. About thirty responded. The meeting started with a “getting to know you” social exercise followed by self-introductions, where we discussed our organization goals. A directory was promised so we could contact those we met and network. Notable was that a representative of the Hartford Foundation for Giving told me that they were very interested in supporting our projects. Our organization received very positive response from nearly all the attendees. We are highly respected and they support the trails and projects we propose and support.

1. Helmet donation report

Deb Dauphinais and Jeff Stein attended the event. Bike/Walk Glastonbury donated the helmets. 8 children showed up and were provided with the helmets. This event will be extended for two more weeks to identify more children who need helmets.

1. Projects in progress – Jeff reports.
2. Bike Friendly Facilities

Mark McCall met with Wendy Mis and discussed how we identify property owners (building occupants are usually not the property owner) and how can we entice them to agree to the designation. Boston has a successful program, we need to contact them.

1. Elementary School Program

Scheduled for 4/29/20. Bike/Walk CT runs it. Cost is $600.00, which we donated.

1. Future Projects
2. Elaine Bartley will be meeting with Wendy Mis and Anna Park to develop ideas for a gift to the new House Street-Western Boulevard Trail.
3. Mark McCall is scheduling a meeting with the Recreation Department and Glenn Vernes of NEMBA to develop the Bike Track Project.
4. Safety Meeting.

Allen contacted Wendy Mis and was told no meeting scheduled at this time.

1. Web Hosting

Mark McCall had suggested that we move our web site to Google. Ron DeGray suggested other site managers. Attempts were made to contact Google and they did not respond. By vote, we decided to stay with our current site manager, Blue Host. Expenditure of $50.00 per year.

1. Membership Growth – Group discussion

We could schedule and promote speakers. We should definitely promote the opening of the trail.

1. Treasurer’s Report

Jeff presented Dan Sharp’s report. The checking account balance is $303.74 and the Money Market balance is $6,348.37. Total Balance is $6,652.11.

 IX. Bylaws update – Jeff

Dan Sharp and Jeff reviewed. Updated with our current name and procedures. Edited the bylaws to make them relevant. Dan is scheduling an appointment with an attorney to make sure that our bylaws meet state and federal standards. Further action will be deferred to our June meeting for action by the Board.

1. Housekeeping
2. Electric Bikes are allowed on trails and sidewalks.
3. Tour de Glastonbury? No plan yet.

Motion to Adjourned: Elaine Bartley. Motion seconded by Allen Friedrich