

Approved on November 24, 2020 – A full audio recording of this virtual meeting can be found on the Town's website under Wellfleet Town Media.

**Wellfleet Selectboard Work Meeting
Monday, November 9, 2020 at 11 am
Zoom Virtual Meeting**

Selectboard Members Present: Chair Michael DeVasto; Janet Reinhart; Helen Miranda Wilson; Ryan Curley

Regrets: Justina Carlson

Also Present: Town Administrator Maria Broadbent; Assistant Town Administrator Mike Trovato; Executive Assistant Courtney Butler; Cape Cod National Seashore Superintendent Brian Carlstrom; Park Planner Lauren McKean; Bike and Walkways Committee Members Rebecca Noble, Lance Miller, Peter Cook

Chair DeVasto called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. This meeting was held via Zoom and the recording is available on the Town website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, OPEN SESSION AND PUBLIC COMMENT

- Wilson: Cutler Bill regarding Chapter 130 (shellfish)

MEETING WITH CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE SUPERINTENDENT BRIAN CARLSTROM TO DISCUSS AND REVIEW THE PROPOSED BIKE PROJECTS

Carlstrom thanked the Board for having him. He reminded the Board of the deferred maintenance backlog, of \$40 million plus, that must be taken on as priority, but said that he is willing to listen to what Wellfleet wants to discuss. Carlstrom said that the Town would have to present overwhelmingly compelling evidence, supported by the public, before it would discuss developing a new route. He also discussed the Outer Cape Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (OCBPMP).

Wilson asked if there was a way for the Park to share the financial burden with DCR and DOT; Carlstrom said this had not been discussed yet. Curley said the OCBPMP left out this particular area in Wellfleet that needed additional study prior to building a bike path.

DeVasto asked about the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP); McKean said there have not been FLAP funds at the Seashore in some time. McKean noted the planning and cost of the OCBPMP. DeVasto said he understood and appreciated the work that went into the OCBPMP but was concerned that Wellfleet was left in a gray area. He asked if there was a way to continue recreational bike traffic through Wellfleet, but away from the highway. DeVasto asked if the FLAP funding stream was still available and asked if it was possible to use Town and Fire Roads. Carlstrom said that the National Park Service has an office to assist communities with recreation programs, that could potentially work on this. He noted that anything the Park Service would do is typically a two-year process before the funds even become available. Carlstrom said the use of Fire Roads is feasible, but a lot of planning would need to be done first.

Carlstrom said that bicycle accidents are the number one safety concern in the Seashore, stating that there is no accident that occurs more within the park. He said the park does community outreach to increase awareness of accidents and bicycle safety. McKean mentioned that the proposed Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) route is outside of the Seashore.

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Curley asked the typical cost of the raised, asphalt bike path; McKean said the improvements to the existing Head of the Meadow Bike Trail was about \$2 million. Curley said he did not want the bike trail to stop at the campground, but to at least get to Old County Road, nor did he it to connect to Route 6 at the DCR's proposed location. Reinhart asked about the draft plans provided to the Board, by members of the Bike and Walkways Committee. DeVasto said these were other possible routes they had developed. There was further discussion of possible plans. There was further discussion.

Miller, a new member of the Bike and Walkways Committee, said he recently walked 4.9 miles of path that the Committee feels may be a better route. This would start on LeCount Hollow and end on Collins Road in Truro and would follow the power lines and Old Kings Highway.

Wilson asked for a more collaborative work effort, with all agencies involved, to consider all possibilities for the route. Curley said his goal today was to find out what the Seashore was willing to consider, before meeting with the State to determine alternate routes. He said that he felt the path forward was to fund a study to determine alternative routes, saying that Noble has already spoken with the Cape Cod Commission on this matter who is ready to assist if funding is available. Curley said he would also like to get the bike path to get to Long Pond Road, which already has a bridge over the highway, eliminating the need to cross traffic to get to Town Center. McKean suggested tackling the section to Long Pond Road first, as that does not need Seashore approval and provided further insight. McKean mentioned an alternative routes document from 2016 that should be available, as a component to the OCBPMP.

Wilson asked if the Board would like to alert the State to this conversation and invite them back. Reinhart said the goal of the Department of Transportation (DOT) is to bring a safe bikeway, as well as the DCR wishes to provide a recreation opportunity; she suggested trying to promote those ideals. Carlstrom said a lot of planning has been done on this and anything going forward is complimentary to this baseline work that has been completed. DeVasto agreed with Carlstrom.

- Wilson moved to ask Courtney Butler to contact the DOT, the DCR, Brian Carlstrom, the Wellfleet Bike and Walkways Committee, and the Cape Cod Commission, to set up a virtual meeting, where everyone can see the same the same documents, and further discuss this.
- DeVasto seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

- Reinhart moved to adjourn.
- Wilson seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 12:11pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Butler,
Secretary

Public Records Documents available as of 11/9/2020:

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1. DRAFT Bike Trail Maps – “South to North” and “Possible Trails” as provided by Dennis O’Connell;
2. Memo from Barbara Taylor to the Wellfleet Bike and Walkways Committee, dated August 26, 2019, re: Previously Proposed Bike Routes Thru Wellfleet;
3. Federal Land Access Program (FLAP) information;
4. 2016 Outer Cape Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan – Updated 2017;
5. 2016 Outer Cape Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan – alternative routes;
6. August 2, 2019 CCNS Press Release – Head of the Meadow Bicycle Trail and Connector Construction Project Completion;
7. NPS Bike Use Rule Flow Chart (36 CFR §4.30)