

## Bike and Walkways Committee

April 12, 2019

11:00 at the Wellfleet Public Library

Members in attendance: Ned Oliver, Lisa Palladino, Rebecca Brodwick Noble, Christie O’Campbell, and Tracey Hunt

Meeting called to order at 11am.

### **Annual Town Meeting Article 44:**

1. Dale Donovan came to introduce Article 44, which requests that *the Board of Selectmen the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board consider alternate routes for the Bike Trail Extension and to ask the appropriate agencies to halt any planning or construction beyond Old County Road until those deliberations have occurred.*
2. Article 44 urges the State to come up with a better, safer plan. He specified that all of the people who signed the petition were not abutters. He asked if the committee had received any notice from the BOS for recommendations. The committee had not.
3. Article 44 clearly states that we want the town to have a voice in the state’s plans - and until a plan is agreed upon – we want the bike path to stop at Old County Road by the Senior Center. This would avoid PJs, Cahoon Hollow Road and all of the curb cuts that along the ¼ mile of Route 6 that is the primary source of concern.
4. This article aligns with our high priority goals. Lisa moved to vote to recommend Article 44 and all approved. We will submit our recommendation to the moderator before the town meeting.
5. Dale Donovan will be presenting the article at Town Meeting. Steve Oliver volunteered to be a resource for any bike path questions that may come up. All members of the committee will make their best efforts to be there as well.

### **Outer Cape Bike and Pathways Status:**

1. Lisa received an email from DCR in response to her outreach to our contact. They do plan to have another public meeting, but do not have a date set yet. They did share that they are pushing forward on the project and “are not particularly swayed by the abutter’s arguments that it is an unsafe project or that it should be put on hold ... I can also restate that the proposal to use the private properties until the transmission easement north of Old Kings Highway is a nonstarter for us.”
2. They also wrote that they disagree with the BOS’s request to make a one-way bike path on either side of the road and are “hoping that this recommendation is reconsidered in the name of safety.”

3. Because this project is 80% federally funded and 20% state funding, the committee agreed that it would be worthwhile to reach out to all of our representatives to build an awareness including Cyr, Peake, Warren, Markey and Gov. Baker. The group agreed that a nice announcement about Article 44 would be a good place to start.
4. Lisa will respond to DCR and will remain transparent but neutral about our views and that we are excited to share news of Article 44 with our local and state representatives.
5. Tracey spoke from the perspective of a downtown business owner about protecting our town's reputation that could be at risk if traffic safety.
6. Ned pointed out that downtown congestion is already putting biker's and pedestrian's safety at risk. Directing more bikes into town will leave our town with a major expense. While the rail trail and Route 6 are state and federal projects, the Main Street area is the town's financial responsibility, and we have to provide for safe outlets once the state project directs bikers into town property.

#### **Future Concerns:**

1. The group has questions about Limited Liability for the town and the state. Lisa will reach out to Dan Hort about this issue.
2. Tracey volunteered to do research for any issue or presentation – for instance Eversource, and recommended using 4 positive and 2 negative stories in presentations.
3. MassBike grant-writing services is a resource to keep in mind for expenses (though expenses should only be planning and fees).
4. Lisa reported that currently there is still no response from Stantec. She will reach out again and stay in contact (especially knowing DCR's will be communicating their stance on the two-way multi-use path).

#### **Bike and Pedestrian publications and trainings:**

- Rebecca presented information about free workshops being provided by the FHWA. These are trainings that are also being offered to DCR/Mass Dot, etc. and are an excellent resource.
- Creating Age-Friendly Streets will be released on April 22, and there are many other currently available trainings. [http://pedbikeinfo.org/webinars/webinar\\_details.cfm?id=87](http://pedbikeinfo.org/webinars/webinar_details.cfm?id=87)
- There is also a Vision Zero webinar (a project with the mission of zero traffic related deaths adopted by over 30 U.S. cities) available on the 18th – Rebecca will watch and report back.
- For trainings that are offered in person – it would be great to combine with Provincetown and Truro.

- a. Provincetown is currently in their own negotiations with DCR, they are refusing a multi-use two-way path on Shank Painter Rd.
- b. It would be very effective to have a unified three-town voice.

### **Outer Cape Collaboration:**

1. Truro has extended an invite to their April 24th meeting. Lisa will contact the Chair of the Truro Committee to ask about the possibility of contacting Cyr and Peake. Rebecca said she can post it as an official meeting for our Committee as well. She needs a quorum of three – Ned, Lisa and Rebecca can attend.
2. Tracey shared that the Recycling Committee did a monthly digest of news and included Peake and Cyr on their contacts. It gave information about specific actions points, requests for participation and even included counter arguments.

### **Bay State Bike Week:**

1. In celebration of bike week, Rebecca suggested an all-ages bike ride from the South Wellfleet Rail Trail parking lot to Marconi Beach Rd. (potentially offer doughnuts or something like that).
2. For younger riders – the Mayo Beach parking lot could serve as a little kids' bike loop (a velodrome or criterium). Christie will speak with Becky at Town Rec. - Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, with Sunday as the rain date? The tennis courts can also be a consideration.
3. Tracey pointed out that it is helpful to take pictures and get permission.
4. Also, at MassBike's request, the group all voted in favor of requesting that the town name the month of May as bike month in Wellfleet. - Rebecca will look into this.

### **Map:**

1. Steve Oliver wanted to clarify that the route he presented at the last meeting was an alternative route, not his primary suggestion – the power lines to Gross Hill Rd then to dirt road, Old County Rd to Collins Way (which will connect with Truro's plans to South Payomet).
2. The first phase is set for 2020, which is why it is crucial to stop the path at the Senior Center.
3. The group would also like to see Eric Martinson's Google Earth Map. Ned will contact him to invite him to the next meeting.

**Tracey suggested clarifying monthly and yearly Goals, such as** Article 44 (thank you Dale!), Head off DCR from reaching Route 6 and Eversource research.

### **Public Comments:**

1. Mimi from Bay Sails Marine pointed out that the PanMass challenge does not use the sensitive portion of Route 6 (takes Ocean View Drive from LeCounts).
2. She has heard people say it's only a quarter of a mile or two months – but her experience is that the area is already presents traffic dangers. No one from the state or at any level

has consulted or even spoken to the businesses in the affected area. Baysails has empty trailers with a low visibility, Cumberland Farms (with future gas pumps) did not even know about the plans, and PJs has not been contacted.

3. A committee member reminded the group that Chief Fisetle suggested asking the state to consider a waiver for bike lanes in the business heavy portion of Route 6.

**The group voted to approve the minutes.**

**Next meeting is set for May 3 at 11am. (Christie will bring cake).**