

Bike and Walkways Committee

May 3, 2019

11:00 at the Wellfleet Public Library

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

Meeting called to order at 11:03 am

The group unanimously voted to approve the minutes.

Annual Town Meeting Article 44 Results/Next steps:

1. The town voted with a large majority in favor of Article 44: *requesting that the BOS, Conservation Commission, and Planning Board to consider alternate routes for the bike trail extension and ask the appropriate agencies to halt any planning or construction beyond Old County Road until those deliberations have occurred.*
2. Lisa did send an email informing DCR, Julian Cyr and Stantec of Article 44’s approval.

DCR notice regarding a land acquisition inquiry:

1. Lisa sent a second letter after being notified about the **DCR notice regarding a land acquisition inquiry** in reference to the Amsler property letter on April 29. We saw that the letter was sent on February 26 and discovered that the property is currently under agreement and also that the state had hired surveyors in the last week.
2. Steve Oliver commented that he was told that the process can be lengthy.
3. Cyr replied via a representative that he has contacted them and is hoping for a public forum with Mass DOT, DCR in the early summer.
4. Helen commented that the committee should forward all emails (including this one) to the BOS, Jeanne Maclauchlan, Dan Hoort.

5. In reference to the Amsler property letter, another unclear aspect is the reference to the Waiver. Did Janet sign the waiver? **Lisa will contact Janet to inquire.**

General Discussion of Next Steps:

1. Mimi also wrote a letter to DCR, Peake, Cyr and BOS begging for time to create an alternate plan.
2. The next step is to support the BOS in taking action to this request and to continue investigating alternate plans.
3. Helen recalled conveying very clearly to Stantec that the BOS did not support a two-way multi-use bike path and wants them to come back with a plan that incorporates adequate bike lanes on both sides of the road. The group agreed that it was very clear and are extremely curious to hear back from the organization. (A letter to Stantec)
4. Rebecca and Christie volunteered to **meet with Mike Devasto** to see if he has any questions about the current situation with the state and any hopes he has for action from the committee.
5. Tracey volunteered that press is another avenue to creating public awareness of the situation. There has been no coverage of Article 44. Could consider a press release after the letter has been sent. Mary Ann Bragg, The Cape Codder, KC Myers at The Banner.
6. Dale recommended that we get on the agenda for the next BOS meeting
7. Helen suggested that we could **draft a letter as requested by Article 44** for her to present to the BOS at the next meeting. Include the fact that Amsler's is being surveyed and we are not in the loop about the state's plans. Complete letter by Thursday May 9 to be put on the agenda for the 14th or 28th

8. The Amsler property is the **Planning Board Agenda this Tuesday, May 7**. Steve Oliver will be attending.
9. **Consider also reaching out to Steve Tupper of the Cape Cod Commission** with the parking lot update. He seemed unable to directly disapprove of the Stantec plans because the CCC research complete in 2017, but he did say that he would not bring his 4-year old on this path.
10. In reference to liability, it may be good to consider a discussion with Town Counsel. The state is liable for highway property lawsuits but the town is liable for Main Street area. Case studies show lawsuits for towns not have a bike path or having inadequate bike paths.
11. Ned pointed out sidewalks on Main Street are also inadequate. Walkways are another important goal for the committee.
12. Also a good goal to create a map – showing wetlands and cemetery, curb cuts, etc.
13. Other outreach goals include: reaching out to non-resident tax payers, Governor Baker (who is in charge of DCR), and Bike and Walkways Committee rack cards
14. Ned and Dale will speak to Janet and Christie and Lisa will reach out to Kathleen to see if they have any questions or concerns that we can respond to before the Article 44 letter goes on the agenda.

Next meeting is set for June 3rd at 9am. Meeting adjourned at 1:12