

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON**  
**Bicycle Advisory Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting Held**  
**Thursday March 9, 2017**  
**Engineering Conference Room**

**Attendance:**

**Voting Members**

John Vibert (Chair) – Present  
Deanne Born – Excused  
Neil Kelsey – Excused  
John LaForest-Roys – Present  
Andris Skulte – Present  
C.J. Thomas - Excused

**Non-Voting Members**

Bruce Cyr (Town Liaison) – Present  
Ron Goralski - Chair, Bicycle Friendly Farmington  
Doug Gerlach – Board Member, Bicycle Friendly Farmington

The Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair, John Vibert, called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

**Public Comment:**

Ron Goralski informed the Committee that Bicycle Friendly Farmington (BFF) has taken over the planning and implementation of the Annual Kevin Adorno Memorial Ride. The ride this year will be on May 6, 2017, and will include a Festival at Winding Trails. They are presently looking for both sponsors and donations.

Ron Goralski reported that BFF is working on planning “Bike to School” days in Farmington.

**Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:**

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2016 meeting, and was unanimously approved.

**New Business:**

1. The Committee agreed to forward Ron Goralski’s name to the Town Council for appointment to the Bicycle Advisory Committee.
2. The Committee accepted the 2017 Meeting Schedule.
3. Bicycle Projects update:
  - Trail Fence: The replacement of trail fencing has been completed along the Farmington River Trail from Coppermine Road to Route 177.
  - Farmington Canal Heritage Trail: The Town’s contractor is continuing to work on the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail project, which will extend our existing trail system from Red Oak Hill Road to Northwest Drive in Plainville. At the present time, the bridge is slated for installation late summer 2017 with the intention for the trail to open in fall 2017. BFF Farmington is interested in the potential for a public event/block type party during the installation of the bridge over Route 6. It was discussed that the work will be performed at night, and pedestrians will not be allowed access near the bridge. It was discussed they work with the owners of the property at 175 Scott Swamp Road, about utilizing their property.

- The Committee had also inquired as to whether a schedule is in place to address any future paving improvements along older sections of the trail system.
4. Committee discussed the potential for Bicycle Paths along Utility Right-of-Ways.
  5. The Committee discussed the possibility of installing Business Directional signs along the trail to assist with informing users of business's in the area as destination points. They also suggested the installation of a direction sign to Tunxis Mead Part, at the Red Oak Hill trail head.

### **Old Business:**

1. Discussion of Town-Wide Trails Presentation:  
Town is working towards a presentation hopefully in late spring. Committee will be informed of the exact date once it has been formalized.
2. Review Sharrows and Bike Routes:  
The Committee discussed the potential for additional sharrows and/or Share the Road signs in Town. Bruce Cyr will review to see whether a list had been developed in the past and will present it to the Committee.
3. Bicycle Survey:  
The Committee approved the survey, and asked that it be added to the Town website. Survey will be kept open for continual receipt of data. The Committee discussed the potential for review of results at the July meeting.
4. Complete Streets:  
A complete streets policy has been drafted for discussion. This draft policy needs to be vetted through Town Departments and Commissions.
5. Plainville Bicycle Study:  
The Town of Farmington is working with the Town of Plainville on their Gap Closure Trail Study. The objective of this study is to determine a defined corridor to close the gap in the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail south of Farmington. Doug Gerlach had reported Plainville may be having difficulty with a section of trail leased and operated by a railroad company. He stated they are attempting to negotiate an amicable solution.
6. Connectivity to the Trail:  
The Committee discussed the possibility of installing signs in the Highlands directing users to connection points along the trail. Bruce Cyr will investigate if all approvals have been granted.
7. Trail usage data:  
The Committee discussed the possibility of obtaining STRAVA Data detailing usage and travel patterns to and from the trail system. STRAVA is a company that allows you to map your trips utilizing the GPS on your phones or other devices.
8. Trail/Bike Path Designation:  
The Committee discussed the possibility of designating other sections of sidewalk/trails to refrain from winter maintenance. Bruce Cyr will review the ordinances and report back to the Committee.

**Next Meeting:**

The Bicycle Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on May 11, 2017.

A motion was made, and unanimously accepted to adjourn at 8:00pm.

cc: Bicycle Advisory Committee  
Paula Ray, Town Clerk  
Deb Bull,  
Bruce Cyr, Development/Zoning  
Bill Warner, Town Planner

Kathleen A. Eagen, Town Manager  
Russell Arnold, Director of Public Works and Dev. Svcs.  
Paul Melanson, Chief of Police  
Dawn Grayson, Transportation Coordinator, BOE

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