

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

Attendance:

Voting Members

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

Non-Voting Members

Bruce Cyr (Town Liaison) – Present
Bruce Donald (East Coast Greenway Alliance, Tri-State Coordinator)

The Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair, John Vibert, called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

Public Comment:

Bruce Donald presented the Committee with new East Coast Greenway signs to be installed along the new extension of the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail from Red Oak Hill Road to the Plainville Town Line. Mr. Donald also informed the Committee the East Coast Greenway Alliance will vote this section of trail into the Greenway at its December Meeting.

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made (Thomas) and seconded (Born) to accept the minutes of the September 14, 2017 meeting, and was unanimously approved.

New Business:

1. Bicycle Projects update:
 - Trail Fence: Town is reviewing the condition of the Farmington River Trail fencing from River Road to Route 4.
 - Farmington Canal Heritage Trail: The bridge over Route 6 has been installed. It is anticipated the Bridge and trail construction should be completed in December 2017.
2. The Bicycle Survey was added to the Town Website on March 13, 2017. The Committee reviewed a status update at the July meeting for the results as of July 19, 2017. Since the September meeting, there have been four additional surveys submitted. Committee members were given copies of the updates. Members were informed the survey is still on the Town Website, however it has been removed from the home page to make room for current events. It was decided the Committee will review the summaries and utilize it for future project considerations. The Committee asked to see if the survey can be added to the new Explore Farmington Website.
3. The Committee approved the 2018 Meeting Schedule (attached).
4. The Committee requested the Town look into an expansion of the parking area at the intersection of Coppermine Road and New Britain Avenue.
5. The Committee congratulated Councilman John Vibert on his service and dedication to the Committee. Starting January 2018, a new Council Representative will be appointed to serve as Chairperson.

Old Business:

1. The Town is currently reviewing the condition of the pavement joint at the Oakridge crossing and the Coppermine Road crossing. Oakridge will be paved in 2018, and the joint will be addressed at that time. The joint at Coppermine does not appear to need attention at this time.
2. The Committee was updated regarding their request for the feasibility of adding pedestrian phases to the signals along Farmington Avenue at Knollwood Road, Monteith Drive, and Brickyard Road. ConnDOT is working on the list, and have informed the Town these projects cannot be implemented until 2021 under federal funding.
3. The Committee requested the Town review the condition of the Meadow Road Trail and consider widening the trail in the future. They also requested signage be installed to persuade garden plot users to not park on the trail. The Highway & Grounds Superintendent has stated the trail is not scheduled for reconstruction in the near future. With regards to the parking, all Garden Plot owners will be informed through their permits that parking is not allowed on the trail. If any plot owners park on the trail, the Town Managers Office will contact them to reiterate the regulation. If parking persists, the Town will look into installing signs.
4. The Committee reviewed their earlier request regarding the feasibility of installing a sign on the north side of the trail head at Red Oak Hill Road, directing users to Unionville and Farmington Center, and the Town of Plainville. They also discussed adding a sign post at the intersection of the Farmington River Trail at Route 177/Plainville Ave, which directs users to business's in the area. The Town will review the feasibility of a policy for the Town to accept donations for uniform signs by individual businesses. Bruce Donald will submit a policy/ordinance approved by the Town of Simsbury. The individual signs would be mounted to a 4x4 or 6x6 pressure treated sign post.
5. **Review Sharrows and Bike Routes:**
The Committee discussed continuing with the installation of sharrows in other areas of Town. The Committee will review the legality and safety of these signs, and review the feasibility of additional signs or sharrows along planned routes.
6. **Complete Streets:**
A complete streets policy has been drafted for discussion. This draft policy needs to be vetted through Town Departments and Commissions.
7. **Plainville Bicycle Study:**
It was reported that "Alignment -C" has been approved by the Committee. They are making minor revisions to the plan based on comments. Final approvals are required before funding can be obtained for design and construction.
8. **Connectivity to the Trail:**
Town Staff had determined the signage through the highlands was not needed, and many people know how to navigate through the "Highlands" between the High School and the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail.

Next Meeting:

The Bicycle Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on January 11, 2018.

A motion was made, and unanimously accepted to adjourn at 8:10pm.

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

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SCHEDULE OF 2018 MEETINGS
TOWN HALL, DEVELOPMENT WING CONFERENCE ROOM
6:30 P.M.**

January 11 Thursday

March 8 Thursday

May 10 Thursday

July 12 Thursday

September 13 Thursday

November 8 Thursday