

Fairhaven Bikeway Committee

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10/28/2020 Meeting summary report

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FAIRHAVEN,
MASS.

Members:

Lois Callahan- Chairwoman

Matthew Coes

Robert J. Espindola

Paul Foley

James Anderson

Justin Gledhill

On October 28th , 2020, Quorum was met to start to hold the meeting. Chairwoman Callahan started the meeting with a motion to accept the notes from the September 30th meeting The notes were approved by the committee.

Chairwoman Callahan started the meeting with a report from the CPC signage sub-committee, Made up of Matthew Coes, James Anderson, and Paul Foley. The sub-committee reviewed the specially pinned map, shown in the September 30th meeting, that highlights areas of interest in revisions/ additions to the current signage on the bike routes and phoenix bike trail.

Matthew Coes gave a brief update on Safe Routes to school. Coes explained that due to the current pandemic, there has not been any significant correspondence with Fairhaven public schools.

Paul Foley offered a significant update on complete streets. A board was created consisting of various members of fairhaven committees/boards, including the Fairhaven police chief. The group will be meeting to finalize the policy that will lead to funding from MassDOT

The bollard safety was quickly mentioned, but due to the fact that all committee members have read the bollard report, it was not mentioned any further.

Mat Coes gave an overview of SCBA (Southcoast Bikeway Alliance) and ECG(East Coast Greenway) .The organizations gathered and discussed the planned extensions, and plan on working with the Sullivan Foundation. These organizations are working together, along with bike committees from various towns/cities, to complete the connection of the paths.The fairhaven bikeway committee will be paired with Mattapoiset in future SCBA and ECG meetings due to the two towns paths directly connecting to one another. Mat also gave an overview of plans in New Bedford that will positively affect the community. Various surveys have taken place in New Bedford, due to the planned addition of a train terminal. New Bedford is considering a bicycle storage area for those who need to store their bikes when they use the train.

Lastly on the agenda, Bike counting was discussed. Normally a volunteer in the community is positioned on a certain part of the phoenix bike trail, usually a segment with the most pedestrian traffic, and counts the amount of pedestrians. The Pedestrians are then separated into sub categories, for example, walkers, cyclists, etc. To make the process more efficient, there was talk of setting up a trail camera to serve as an automated counter. The outcome of this discussion is yet to be determined due to concerns of privacy, the positioning of said camera, and the proper permissions of private residents.

Due to the thanksgiving holiday, Next committee meeting is set to take place on Wednesday, December 2nd, 2020.

Written by Justin Gledhill