

City of Bath, Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
Minutes
September 21, 2016

Present: Members: Kevin Shute, chair; Tim Blair, Robert McChesney, Travis Wolfel, Carl Zeis; *ex officio*, Steve Balboni, Andrew Deci, Peter Owen

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM and the minutes from the August 17 meeting were approved.
2. In the first order of business, the committee welcomed Tim Blair, a resident of High Street. Tim moved to Bath from Phippsburg and has two school-aged children.
3. Kevin reported on the August "Open Streets" event and committee members were encouraged to volunteer their help for the September 25 event.
4. Andrew discussed progress on the updated (or new) bike-ped plan. Kevin, Travis, and Robert are working with Andrew on the plan. He expects a draft will be available at the November 16th meeting. He suggested that everyone come up with their own "vision" of what an ideal environment for biking and walking would be like regardless of cost. He thought that should form a vision statement for the document. Some discussion then followed as to how general a statement it should be with "safety" being a primary concern and then traffic calming, education, and thinking more broadly about biking and pedestrian activities, for example recreational (mountain biking and hiking), access for the mobility-challenged. Subcategories were street conditions (edge or fog lines, street furniture, islands—all part of traffic calming) and enforcement.
5. Tim asked whether the committee raised funds and Andrew mentioned several (Front Street ADA compliance, Commercial Street-Riverwalk project, North Street rebuild).
6. Andrew then provided an update on current state projects in Bath affecting bike-ped activities: viaduct rebuild, Lehman highway sidewalk project, and the newly configured High Street on-ramp. Peter mentioned that the state had now agreed to put a sidewalk on the Congress Avenue bridge over Route 1
7. Peter spoke of the paving projects being done or about to be done: Old Brunswick to Five Corners, (north) Washington. Kevin thought there was plenty of room for a bike lane. Also there a short discussion of the narrow (9-foot?) lanes created as a result of edge line striping on Richardson Street. This was to try and do something about the inability of drivers to keep to a 20 mph limit and assuage the concerns of the residents along Richardson. Andrew brought out some concerns expressed by the Hyde School about traffic (speeding?) on Redlon.
8. Citizen's Involvement Day is October 8 from 9:30-12:30. The committee has reserved a table again and Kevin and Robert said they would man it. Anyone else interested in a turn at the table contact Kevin.
9. The state's mandated 3-foot signs (all English text, no iconography) have been installed by Public Works.