

City of Bath, Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee  
Minutes  
October 19, 2016

Present: Members: Kevin Shute, chair; Tim Blair, Robert McChesney (acting secretary), Terry Nordmann, Sharon Wilbraham, Travis Wolfel, Carl Zeis; *ex officio*, Steve Balboni

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM and the minutes from the September 21 meeting were approved.
2. The September "Open Streets" event was discussed and how it might be improved. Tim suggested getting some of the food purveyors involved (Beale Street?) and mentioned a "dead zone" between the tables and popcorn maker around City Hall and the music down at the corner of Water and Front. Kevin thought that a future event might be better on Commercial Street with Waterfront Park as part of the venue. Robert opined that maybe one event would be better than two and there was some thought that if two, they might "bookend" the summer rather than having both at the end. Terry raised what he thought was store owner concern about the effect of Open Streets on their businesses. The only business open along Front Street was Reny's and someone thought it may have been clerks or other staff rather than the owner's themselves that he spoke with. Tim stated that it was important to actively engage the store owners in Open Streets to make sure that it wasn't a burden on them. The person working in the ice cream shop on the corner of Water and Front complained about "too much business" because she was the only one manning the store.
3. Kevin reported on Citizen Involvement Day. The impression was that we had a good turnout and interest in the Bike & Ped table.
4. Lawrence Kovacs, one of those who had stopped to chat at the table, spoke about his interest in having a "pump track" laid out in the space between the Armory and the Middle School parking lot. Steve mentioned that Kovacs had mentioned it to him as well but where was the design and any plan?
5. Kevin discussed his conversations with some PT (PE?) teachers of RSU 1 about bicycle education. They currently don't do anything about it. This more or less coincides with the committee's lack of success in engaging the schools in bike education or bike riding. Kevin spoke about the "Walking School Bus" events of the past but since he left the Y there's nothing being done now. There's no strong school support either from parents or teachers.
6. A discussion of the viaduct progress and then the committee adjourned at 3:55. There was a sense of not having the main business of the meeting to discuss, the revised Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.