

Bike/Ped Meeting Minutes for February 15, 2017

Meeting called to order at 4:03 pm.

Present: Kevin Shute, Peter Owen, Robert McChesney, John Swenson, Dan Couture, Tim Blair, Andrew Deci, Carl Zeis, Travis Wolfel.

Old Business:

The minutes of the last January meeting have not been distributed. Kevin will bring to the next meeting.

- a. Andrew is working on the revision of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan and hopes to have a draft for the next meeting.
- b. Kevin took part in a Webinar on bicycle safety and offered to bring this as a workshop at the Bike-to-Work day on May 15-19. Added discussion on Bike-to-Work day included the value of putting up the banner downtown, how to encourage cyclist to bike to work and to reach out to businesses and their employees to communicate the benefits of having employees bike to work. There is no funding mechanism for the bike committee; therefore the committee may need to look into funding opportunities to purchase items such as the banner.
- c. Bike Friendly Community signs. Robert has brought up that several "Bike Friendly Community" signs have been removed. Specifically the ones in the Winnegance area and on the North Bath Road. Peter mentioned that he is not aware of any of the signs being removed by Public Works but will check with the sign crew.
- d. Cross Walk Audit. Peter reported that he researched cross walk standards and did not find a specific standard but found guidance on Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) website. The guidance is a 27 page document that identifies numerous considerations for crosswalks. Most crosswalks are designed by a Professional Engineer during the consideration of a street design. Variables include traffic speed, traffic volume, urban setting verses rural, sight lines, traffic lights intersection, lighting, whether mid cross medians are needed and many other considerations.

There was much discussion about inventory and the safety of existing crosswalks. In the end Peter offered to pull together an inventory of crosswalks in the spring. The inventory will be brought to the committee and the committee will split up the crosswalks and conduct a "perceived safety" audit on all crosswalks in order that a list of crosswalks can be identified for further review by a qualified professional. There is no budget for an engineer but when these streets are identified for improvements the crosswalk will be included in the improvement plan.

New Business

- a. Transportation Committee. Kevin described the kickoff meeting for the new Transportation Committee. This included discussions on parking within the city,

Bike/Ped meeting
February 15, 2017

concerns about process of tasks, duplication of efforts with the bike/ped committee and the development of tasks for the committee to undertake. Andrew added that the city intends to implement a traffic study in the south end in the vicinity of BIW to look at traffic movement, parking and many issues related to the movement of traffic in this area.

- b. MDOT Meeting. The Maine Department of Transportation will be holding a public meeting on Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm at City Hall to discuss the plans for the Congress Avenue bridge improvement project. The significance is that the State intends to add a new sidewalk to the bridge which was not the original plan. In addition, there will be sidewalks constructed in cooperation with the city on both sides of the bridge.
- c. Kevin asked if there were value in inviting members of the Brunswick bike/ped committee to our meetings. Responses were it would be beneficial if the committee had a specific issue to discuss with the Brunswick members.
- d. Meeting adjourned at 5:02