

City of Bath Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
Regular Meeting
April 19, 2017

MINUTES

Present; Kevin Shute, Chair; Robert McChesney, recording Secretary *pro tem*; John Swenson, Dan Couture, Travis Wolfel, Andrew Deci, Carl Zeis, Ann Dunham

Visiting: Darcy Whittemore, Bicycle Coalition of Maine (BCM) and Safe Streets to School

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM and the minutes from the March meeting were approved.

1. Darcy Whittemore came to speak about pedestrian safety and the “Head Up program a BCM-DOT initiative to address pedestrian and bicycle clashes with cars. She asked us to hold a Road Safety Forum in conjunction with a grant (?) BCM or DOT has to promote road safety. Patrick (name?) of DOT, the Community Bike and Pedestrian Liaison, asked Bath through Darcy for Bath to hold a public forum on May 11th and one was scheduled (already?) for Thursday evening May 11 6-8 PM. The idea is for the public to provide input about unsafe practices they’ve witnessed or problematic areas where pedestrians (and bicyclists?) face potential danger. BCM will produce a flyer (they had a sample from Westbrook) and Andrew will distribute. Darcy also introduced the “Heads Up” programs, a program to provide education about safe walking and bicycling practices to Maine students K-12. Holding pedestrian safety forums, such as the May 11 forum is part of the “Heads Up” program.

2. Bike to Work Week: Robert reported that the bike banner was still in the hands of Carrot Signs and Jamey Buonavenuto (sp.?) of Carrot Signs had said he would have it done “next week” (i.e. the week of April 24). Andrew mentioned May 8 as the day it would be hung. Bike-to-Work Week is May 15-19. Because it costs \$200 to hang the sign there was some discussion as to whether it was worth it. Since \$1200 had been spent on the banner (with a major grant and some private funding) and since it gives good visibility to bikes and pedestrians it was felt by some that it is good PR and worth the money. Anyone who wants to contribute to the “banner-hanging fund” should give Andrew a check made out to “City of Bath”.

On Friday May 19, a 6.5 mile ride the “Tour de Bath” will start at the Bath Y at 7 AM and follow a course mapped by Carl.

The ride will conclude with a raffling off of a gift certificate for a bike tune-up courtesy of Bath Cycle and Ski.

3. Andrew presented a draft bike & ped for discussion at up coming meetings.

4. Other subjects of discussion that followed included the work of the Transportation Committee (Kevin is a member) and their focus on BIW’s parking problems and the feasibility of a Youth Bike Center.