

VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION
BIKE/WALK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015 AT 5:45 PM
LINCOLN HALL MEETING ROOM
AGENDA

1. Minutes Review;
2. Event Planning;
3. Review & Update Project Priority List;
4. Public Input.

MINUTES SUBJECT TO CORRECTION BY THE ESSEX JUNCTION BIKE/WALK ADVISORY COMMITTEE. CHANGES, IF ANY, WILL BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE.

**VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION
BIKE/WALK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rick Hamlin, Micah Hagan, Jud Lawrie, Eric Bowker, Raj Chawla, Phoebe Spencer, Gabe Epstein

ADMINISTRATION: Darby Mayville, Community Relations/Economic Development Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Rick called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM.

2. MINUTES REVIEW

Rick began the meeting by introducing new member Gabe Epstein.

MOTION BY JUD, SECOND BY ERIC TO ACCEPT JUNE MEETING MINUTES. MOTION PASSED.

The July minutes were tabled until the October meeting. Rick noted that the Village received notification this morning that they did not receive grant funding for the West Street pedestrian path. Writing this grant was the focus of the July work session.

3. EVENT PLANNING

Rick asked the committee if there was any interest in planning a walk or ride before the winter season? He noted that the rides at the Five Corners Farmers' Market were not particularly well-attended. He believes that this was not a good venue for a community ride.

Jeff noted that the bike shop that used to be in Essex Junction used to do a fall group ride to Chapin Orchards to get cider and donuts. They scheduled a longer ride to Westford that broke off from this group as well.

Rick asked if the ride had any rules or age restrictions?

Jeff said no, and that he thought that the long distance weeded out many extremely unexperienced riders.

Micah noted that this would be an inexpensive event to host, as the committee would not have to purchase food.

Phoebe noted that all of the events planned had been focused on biking, rather than walking.

Eric noted that walk to school day is on October 7th. Darby said that she would mention this in the Village newsletter.

Phoebe suggested the idea of partnering with the Historical Society to do a history walk. Darby mentioned that the Essex History Hikes were created several years ago, and could be used. There are three History Hikes available: two in Essex Junction and one in Essex Center.

The idea of a creemee ride to Ray's and Rocky's was also discussed.

The committee noted that there was a considerable amount of discussion regarding the new bike path on Main Street on Front Porch Forum over the summer. Raj said that it is important for the committee to continue to educate the public on issues regarding biking and walking. Rick suggested that this be added to the priority list.

Gabe suggested that the committee consider forming a Fit Bit challenge group. He will research this idea more and report back at the next meeting.

Raj suggested that the committee work on compiling good locations to snowshoe/Nordic run. This could contain information on accessing trails, parking, and other pertinent information. This could be listed as a resource on the Bike/Walk Committee website.

Jeff asked if the signs that were purchased announcing Essex Junction's bike friendly award had been installed yet? Rick said that he would check in with public works to determine this.

It was decided that the committee would schedule a cider/donut ride on October 4th. They will be leaving from the parking lot near the Town Offices around 9 AM. Jeff will be contacting Chapin Orchards to make sure that they will be open at this time, prior to publicizing the event.

4. REVIEW & UPDATE PROJECT PRIORITY LIST

Rick noted that the committee has made a significant amount of progress on their priority list since its inception. It may be time to update the priority list to reflect this.

Jud suggested reviewing the debrief documents received from the League of American Bicyclists. These documents detailed what the Village would need to do in order to receive silver status in a few years. This will be added to the October agenda.

Eric suggested keeping an eye out for grant opportunities that could fund priority projects.

Raj suggested involving the police in the committee, as their support in enforcement is critical.

5. PUBLIC INPUT & OTHER

Phoebe mentioned that she had been asked to sit on the CCRPC Active Transportation Advisory Committee. The goal of this committee is to edit the Active Transportation Plan. She would like

to represent the Village and the Bike/Walk Advisory Committee on this committee. Phoebe mentioned that she has been attending committee members as herself, not as a representative of the Village. However, if she was appointed, she be attending on behalf of the Village.

MOTION BY RAJ, SECOND BY MICAH TO RECOMMEND THAT THE VILLAGE TRUSTEES APPOINT PHOEBE TO THE CCRPC ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE. MOTION PASSED.

Raj mentioned that he thought that the committee should consider the idea of holding a bike drive some time next spring. Committee members could tune up bikes and re-home them.

Eric will talk to the police officer who is outside of Road Res Q during the school day to see if she is interested in attending a meeting.

Darby updated the committee on a man who has been selling bikes at various locations in the Village.

6. NEXT MEETING & AGENDA

- Next Meeting: October 19th at 5:45 PM
- Agenda Items:
 1. TBD

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY JUD, SECOND BY PHOEBE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Darby Mayville.