

VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION
BIKE/WALK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2017 AT 5:45 PM
LINCOLN HALL
AGENDA

- Minutes Review;
- Discussion re. CTE Bike Rack Project;
 - Review Committee Goals;
- Location Scouting for Bike Racks in Village Center;
 - 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
October 16, 2017**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Raj Chawla, Jud Lawrie, Eric Bowker, Micah Hagan, Phoebe Spencer (via Skype)

ADMINISTRATION: Darby Mayville, Community Relations/Economic Development Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Raj called the meeting to order at 5:56 PM.

2. MINUTES REVIEW

MOTION BY MICAH, SECOND BY RAJ TO ACCEPT THE AUGUST MEETING MINUTES. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSED.

3. AGENDA ADDITIONS

MOTION BY RAJ, SECOND BY MICAH TO ADD DISCUSSION OF A POTENTIAL COMMITTEE BUDGET TO THE AGENDA. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSED.

4. POTENTIAL COMMITTEE BUDGET

Raj informed the committee that he had recently met with Village Trustee Lori Houghton regarding the committee's activities. She encouraged the committee to pay more attention to pedestrian issues. She also noted that it would be helpful for BWAC committee members to be more connected to the activities of other committees, such as the Capital Committee, Economic Development Committee, Planning Commission, and Conservation and Trails Committee.

Raj suggested that a member of the committee take responsibility for following the agendas of each of these committees, and attending meetings when appropriate. He volunteered to follow the Trustee meetings.

Eric and Jud echoed the importance of forming relationships with other committees.

Raj suggested that committee members could also look at applications that will be going in front of the Planning Commission to ensure that there were proper bicycle and pedestrian accommodations.

Raj suggested the possibility of using budgeted funds to hold a workshop, or to send leaders to a conference so they can bring their knowledge back to the community.

Raj asked all committee members to take a look at the goals list, and send him a list of items that they hope to get funding for. He will work on getting on an upcoming Trustee agenda to discuss this further.

5. CTE BIKE RACK PROJECT

Raj noted that he sent the CTE video to all committee members. He is working to see if the students involved would be willing to come to a meeting to make a presentation to the BWAC. He also suggested offering some type of award to encourage the students to take on this project.

6. REVIEW COMMITTEE GOALS

Raj showed the committee a list of goals and objectives developed by the Building Healthy Communities team, which was a grant funded precursor to the BWAC. The Building Healthy Communities team partnered with Local Motion and also did citizen outreach. The committee reviewed these items to see how many of these are still applicable.

The BWAC decided that it would be unlikely that they would hold another bike festival. They also decided not to pursue encouraging a bike shop to open in the Village.

Raj highlighted the importance of working on mapping, and noted that this would be a good project to collaborate with the Conservation & Trails Committee to complete.

Eric said that he thought education was one of the most important things that the BWAC could work on. He stated that people need to hear things many times in order for them to stick. Raj noted that the BWAC needed to educate drivers, as well as bikers and walkers. Phoebe said that it is important to make it easier for people to make good decisions. Micah suggested increasing outreach through Facebook and Front Porch Forum.

Eric noted that many residential streets in the Village have quite a bit of cut-through traffic. Much of this is from parents who are dropping their kids off a school. If more students walked, there would be less traffic in the Village.

Raj suggested that the committee work on developing “drop off locations” so that students can walk part of the way to school. It may be possible to hire someone to assist the students in getting the rest of the way to school from this point.

Raj suggested that it might be a good idea to cost share with local businesses to fund the purchase of additional bike racks or repair stations. He also suggested the idea of having a bike share program, and the group brainstormed who could be responsible for managing this.

Raj noted that it would be helpful to have all of the main arterials striped.

Raj noted that it is important to remember to also consider project in the Town, as all committee members are residents of the Town as well as the Village.

Raj asked the committee to consider improvements that would help pedestrians. Jud noted that the grant that Darby had sent out contained a lot of good ideas for pedestrian improvement activities. Eric noted that he saw more people walking this summer than in years past.

The committee came up with the following list of goals:

- Add bike racks.
- Add a bike repair station.
- Increase educational outreach.
- Add covered bike parking at the Amtrak station.
- Add wayfinding signage for bikers and walkers.

Eric also noted that the committee was still looking for another member. Raj said that the committee was fairly homogenous, and that it would be helpful to expand the age and gender diversity of the BWAC. He said that it would be helpful to reach out to the refugee committee. Darby informed the BWAC that she had attended a Nepali community gathering a few years ago and that transportation was one of the major concerns voiced. Raj said that he would reach out to the refugee community through his contacts in Voices in Education. Phoebe said that she would see about recruiting some younger committee members.

7. LOCATION SCOUTING FOR BIKE RACKS

The committee decided to move this project to the spring.

8. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

9. NEXT MEETING & AGENDA

The next meeting will be held on November 20th at 5:45 PM. The agenda is TBD.

10. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY RAJ, SECOND BY JUD TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MEETING
ADJOURNED AT 6:41 PM.**

Respectfully submitted, Darby Mayville.