

VILLAGE OF ESSEX JUNCTION

BIKE/WALK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2017 AT 5:45 PM

LINCOLN HALL

AGENDA

- Minutes Review.
 - Update on Trustees Presentation / Budget.
 - Bike Repair and Rack Selection for Main / Railroad.
 - Discussion re: BWAC Members Monitoring Village Committees.
- Possible Scheduling of Joint Meeting with Town of Essex Conservation and Trails Committee re: Mapping / Collaboration.
 - Ribbon Cutting - Pearl Street Project.
 - 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
November 20, 2017**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Raj Chawla, Jud Lawrie, Eric Bowker, Phoebe Spencer, Jeff Frolik (via Facetime)

OTHERS PRESENT: Eric McCarthy (Essex Conservation & Trails Committee)

ADMINISTRATION: Darby Mayville, Community Relations/Economic Development Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Raj called the meeting to order at 5:46 PM.

2. MINUTES REVIEW

Raj asked that two typos in the October meeting minutes be corrected.

MOTION BY JUD, SECOND BY RAJ TO ACCEPT OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES AS AMENDED. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSED.

3. UPDATE ON TRUSTEES PRESENTATION/BUDGET

Raj informed the committee that their budget request of \$5,000 was awarded. This money will become available in July of 2018. He said that it was an especially good day for him to present to the Trustees, due to the fact that they were also discussing speed reduction and traffic enforcement at this meeting. He was able to provide some suggestions in regards to these matters.

Raj suggested that the Trustees consider street narrowing in order to slow down the flow of traffic. He noted that the police said that they have not been able to do as much enforcement as normal due to the fact that they are down four officers. Raj said that the Trustees also discussed the possibility of using traffic cameras to ticket offenders.

Raj suggested purchasing reflective beacons to help pedestrians' cross busy intersections. He noted that they have been coming down in price.

Eric said that the ANR crossing area would be a good location for one of these. Phoebe noted that this would be a mid-block crossing, and that there could be some resistance as a result of this.

4. BIKE REPAIR AND RACK SELECTION FOR MAIN/RAILROAD

Raj noted that a bike repair stand will cost around \$1,000. The Village has been awarded a Go! Vermont grant for \$500 (to be matched with \$500 in Village funds). Raj will see if any local business would be interested in providing some additional funds for this project as well.

5. DISCUSSION RE: BWAC MEMBERS MONITRING VILLAGE COMMITTEES

The committee assignments are as follows:

- Raj: Village Trustees
- Jud: Conservation & Trails Committee
- Eric: EJRP Advisory Board
- Darby: Tree Advisory Committee
- Phoebe: Zoning Board of Adjustment & Planning Commission

The committee will see if one of the members not present tonight would like to have the Capital Program Review Committee. The committee also discussed the possibility of asking for stories on FPF from bikers and walkers to help inform their work.

6. DISCUSSION WITH CONSERVATION AND TRAILS COMMITTEE

All committee members introduced themselves to Eric McCarthy, who is a member of the Essex Conservation & Trails Committee. Eric M noted that the Conservation Committee and Trails Committee recently merged into one joint committee. This made sense to ensure quorum, and because the two committees had similar goals. The committee is an advisory group who works with the Planning Commission and the ETC Next committee to ensure that trails are maintained and conserved.

Raj asked about the trail mapping project that several UVM students are assisting the town with. Eric M said that there is a class of upper-level UVM students working to map the trails in the town. They have already done the Freeman Woods and Birchwood Manor area.

Raj suggested that the committee consider mapping both the Village and Town at the same time in order to have one cohesive map. Eric M noted that Essex Parks & Rec may also have some mapping tools that could be of use with a project like this.

Jud asked when the closed trails at Indian Brook will re-open? Eric M said that he was not sure, and that safety was the paramount concern with this.

Eric invited all committee members to join the Conservation & Trails Committee at their monthly meetings, which are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7 PM.

7. RIBBON CUTTING – PEARL STREET PROJECT

Raj said that he was contacted by Village Community Development Director Robin Pierce to see if the committee was interested in holding a ribbon cutting for the Pearl Street Link project. Raj noted that he would probably not be available for this if it was during the workday. Jeff noted that it would be helpful to have some type of education on how to use the bike lanes, and what bikers should do when the lanes end. He also suggested adding a bike box to this project. The committee also wondered when the road would be fully complete.

Jud agreed to be the main contact for this project, and Raj will put him in touch with Robin.

8. PUBLIC INPUT

Raj reminded the committee that there would be a public meeting on a proposed multi-use path along Main Street and Upper Main Street in December.

Raj mentioned that Local Motion could provide bike racks in exchange for hosting workshops on bike and pedestrian safety. He also said that it may be a good use of the committee's budget to bring in planners from other municipalities to educate employees and board members on best practices.

9. NEXT MEETING & AGENDA

The next meeting will be held on January 8th at 5:45 PM. The agenda is TBD.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY RAJ, SECOND BY PHEOBE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Darby Mayville.