

Bike Walk Advisory Committee Minutes
Monday, August 23rd, 6:00pm

BWAC Committee Members Present:

Micah Hagan – Chair, Eric Bowker, Evan Lawrence, Annie Cooper

Staff Representative: Linda Mahns

Others Present: Owiso Makuku, Town Community Development Director, William Parmelee, Carolyn West

Meeting began at 6:07 pm

1. **Agenda Additions or Changes** – added “In-Person Meeting Update” to the agenda.
2. **Review June 21st Minutes** – Annie made a motion to approve the 6/21 minutes. Eric seconded. The motion passed 4-0.
3. **Consider appointment of Vice Chair** – Micah made a motion to appoint Annie Cooper as the Vice Chair of BWAC. Evan seconded. The motion passed 4-0.
4. **Update from Trustees on changing BWAC to be a 7-member committee** – Micah gave an update that the Trustees made the BWAC be a 7-member committee. Linda let the committee know that someone emailed who may be interested in applying to the vacancy.
5. **RRFB Update** – Linda said she will ask Rick Jones for an update on this and cc the committee on the email. Annie noticed some prep work happening in that area. Annie asked for a proactive stance on these so that things can be identified. An email went out to PD for traffic patterns, etc.
6. **Discussion for web page updates** – Linda will update the web page to reflect the June minutes and to ensure all is up to date.
7. **School-based Bike/Walk Safety – conversation update – Beth Cobbs office.** Eric discussed a “Safe Routes to School program” with Local Motion and see if we can coordinate and collaborate with schools (Jamie Smith.) Eric will initiate this more and include Carolyn West in the email chain.
8. **Out & About in Essex BWAC** -- Annie shared that she, Owiso, and Linda are a part of the O&A committee. Owiso then went to share an idea of making a path that connects the Village (5 Corners) with the Town (Essex Experience) for walking and biking for O&A event that is happening on October 2-3, 2021. Would need to create and mark the trail somehow. Would need to have volunteers from the general public to help people safely cross on those days. Was talking about exit/entrance ramps to highway that lead to the Essex Experience for possible RRFBs there in the future. Annie was talking about the creation of an O&A map and how the BWAC might be able to expand on that. Owiso said when the bike path in Winooski is to be finished, there may be an opportunity to expand these bike paths further. Eric stated that the marking the path and creation of a map might be what this committee can help with. He also said there’s a connection off Susie Wilson Rd. Annie, Micah, Eric, and Evan all agreed to help in this capacity. Micah will start the process of creating a map for this purpose and send to Annie to give to O&A committee.
9. **Discussion on bike maps, etc. for the area** – Bill Parmelee gave some input on bike maps utilizing high school students to possibly help to create it at the beginning of this meeting.
10. **Discussion of overall parameters for neighborhood safety and vision** – Micah was talking about the proactive state that this committee wishes to operate from with regards to traffic studies and what areas were showing themselves to be places of interest for safety. Linda had emailed

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police and public works for their input and cc-ed Micah. She will follow up on that email to reignite that wish.

11. Any other business. Nothing additional was discussed.

September 20th is set for the next meeting at 6 pm. Annie made a motion to adjourn. Eric seconded. The motion passed 4-0. The meeting ended at 6:58 pm