

COMPLETE STREETS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

March 9, 2015

In Attendance: Beth Emery, John Hall, Cindi Perugini, Laura Baum, Amy Vallincourt, Ron Krom, Kate Wolfe, Howard Reid, Karen Meszaros (concerned resident)

Minutes of previous meeting correction: previously reported funding approval for the multi use trail was \$28,000.00, however it is actually \$51,000.00.

Minutes accepted by Ron and Beth.

Action Plan:

#6. 2. Correct LCFV TO LCRV (Lower Connecticut River Valley)

#9. Add more bike rides

Status of Multi-use Trail

Mayor Drew has signed the contract with the State. The next step is to sign a contract with Malone and McBroom Engineering for construction in 2016.

Table top Displays:

Jonah Center will have a booth at the Riverfront Festival on May 9.

Beth is still working on the display but hopes to have it completed soon.

Middletown Complete Streets Policy/ Office of General Counsel:

The Office of the General Counsel is drafting language for the policy, however it is not on the priority list. John will mention it in the presentation to Public Works Commission on March 11.

Spring Bike Ride Event: in conjunction with Kids Safety Day on June 13, 2015;

Ron is coordinating with the Kiwanis Club (event organizers), for the second annual CS sponsored bike ride. The event will take place on Main Street between Court and College Streets. Ron prepared a bike route for the event and will present it to the Police Department for approval. CS will have a booth with table top displays and will be manned to provide information to the public.

Fall Bike Ride:

It was determined there isn't sufficient time to prepare a well organized ride this year. We should begin to plan for next fall and consider working in conjunction with neighboring towns (Higganum, Haddam) so we are not the sole entity involved. City officials should be involved to promote the city and the work being accomplished for Complete Streets.

Laura suggested this bike ride could simulate West Hartford's program. Maybe a fee can be charged for the event.

John suggested a committee ride approximately 15-20 miles sometime in September. Ron will put together a route.

Paul Hughes Memorial Bike Ride:

Before engaging in this endeavor the Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Hughes family will be contacted.

Bike to Work Week/Bike to School Day:

Bike to work week, May 11-15, Bike to work day May 15.

How to get businesses involved: Jack Pugliese, VP Middlesex Chamber of Commerce, offered his assistance with business contacts to inquire if they would advertise and support bike to work day. Types of incentives: competition between large employers, advertise, prepare an article for the Middletown Press, Mayor can encourage city employees.

Amy stated Tighe and Bond offers lunch to their employees who participate in bike to work day.

Laura will meet with Jen Kleindienst of the Wesleyan University Sustainability Coordinator for assistance from the students for the event when it is planned.

Bike to school day: May 6

John reported Rick Romano's daughter volunteered to count the bikes at the Middle School.

John will contact Pat Charles to see about getting the schools on board for this event.

Spring Traffic Count:

Areas discussed:

Washington and West Street, Mattabassett Trail (weekend during summer) and West Street Bridge

Riverfront Festival: May 9 12-5

Jonah Center will have a display booth at the event. The following individuals volunteered to assist in manning booth: Amy, Laura, Cindi and possibly Ron.

Safe Routes to School Initiative:

Howard attended a seminar regarding a new up and coming program initiated by the State involving 2 Engineering Firms.

Howard reported the State is attempting to get schools to participate in the program by offering assistance in developing a Safe routes to School Program. The schools must identify their needs and the firms will provide technical assistance, analyze data, and educate personnel. No financial assistance is provided, however the firms will offer inexpensive ways to achieve the goals. It is a large commitment on the part of the school.

Schools in Middletown that may benefit:

MacDonough: Howard and Ron will contact the principal

Wilson: new principal but may be interested

**Bike Walk Summit scheduled for April 23-24, 2015 at Kenney Memorial Center,
Wethersfield**

Thurs., April 23, 2015: NACTO Bikeway Design Guide Workshop

for professionals, led by Roger Geller, Bicycle Coordinator for the city of Portland, Oregon

Fri., April 24, 2015: Connecticut Bike Walk Summit

for citizens, policymakers, and professionals, featuring Geller as keynote speaker.

Presentation to Public Works Commission on March 11:

John, Beth, Ron and Amy will present the powerpoint presentation to the PW Commission, highlighting the goals and objectives of CS, including accomplishments, future endeavors and the necessity of a CS policy.