1. FS_Bicycle_Task_Force_Committee_Agenda_2021_11_18

Documents:

FS_BICYCLE_TASK_FORCE_COMMITTEE_AGENDA_2021_11_18.PDF

1.I. FS_Bicycle_Task_Force_Committee_Agenda_Draft_Minutes_2021_11_18

Documents:

FS_BICYCLE_TASK_FORCE_COMMITTEE_DRAFT_MINUTES_2021_11_18.PDF
1. Approval of Minutes of October 7, 2021 Meeting

2. Welcome/Introduction – F. Camillo (FC)

3. Possible adjustment to Purpose/Mission of Task Force; Confirmation of its Members – FC

4. Decision/Vote on proposed 4 action items for the Byram Neighborhood:
   - resolved: a) Signage to be improved at New Lebanon Elementary School, repair bicycle rack
   - resolved: b) Add bicycle racks at Western Middle School
   - resolved: c) Create 2 bike lanes along James Street East (from Byram Shore Rd to Mead Ave)
   - resolved: d) Identify 3 bicycle (or pedestrian) improvement items along Mead Avenue
   - further resolved: items a) – d) above to be formally scheduled and finished prior to 06/30/22

5. Any other Business Items

6. Next Public Meeting – December 14, 2021 (Town Hall – Cone Room)
Agenda Item 3)

https://www.greenwichct.gov/1964/Bicycle-Task-Force-Committee

As stated on the Town’s formal website: The purpose of the Town of Greenwich’s Bicycle Task Force is to provide our Town with additional support and assistance in all matters relating to Bicyclists/Bicycling, ranging from: public safety, traffic, street and parking ordinances, bicycling safety education, to enhancement of general life, health and air quality and recreational amenities in Greenwich, in particular access and usage of public areas, such as schools, sports fields and parks.

In its function as a Task Force it acts as a specific additional resource under the direction and guidance of our Town of Greenwich’s First Selectman’s Office.

Agenda Item 3) – continued

As of 11/18/2021, the members of this Task Force are: Fred Camillo, Jill Oberlander, Joe Siciliano, Jim Michel, Megan Zanesky, and the following community representatives: Bob DeAngelo, Trish Clark, Stephanie Martin, Ernst Schirmer (Pending: member of the Greenwich Police Department).

Agenda Item 4)

Following the Task Force’s bicycle excursion to the Byram Neighborhood area on 08/21/2021 (starting and ending at New Lebanon Elementary School), during its last formal meeting on 10/07/2021 it recommended the following immediate action items:

a) **Signage to be improved at New Lebanon Elementary School and repair bicycle rack**
   (Reasons: current signage is excessive and rules as to whether or not bicycling is permitted are unclear; bicycle rack (a mid-post) broke and was never replaced)

b) **Add bicycle racks at Western Middle School**
   (Reasons: as per School Principal (G. Bernstein), approx. 25-30 students (out of total population of 585) use bicycles or scooters on a daily basis; currently no racks are installed)

c) **Create 2 bike lanes along James Street East (from Byram Shore Rd to Mead Ave)**
   (Reasons: James Street East is an ideal connection between Byram Shore Rd (Access to Byram Park) and Mead Ave (towards New Lebanon School or center of Byram) and a safe overpass across I-95 Interstate Highway. It is a very wide road, with sufficient space for safe 2-lane motorized traffic plus a sidewalk for pedestrians.

d) **In cooperation with the Byram Neighborhood Association identify 3 bicycle (or pedestrian) improvement items along Mead Avenue**
   (Reasons: several traffic accidents recently occurred along Mead Avenue; while a specific bike lane may prove impractical, at least some other safety measures can be taken quickly, e.g. improving pedestrian crossings, better alerts/signage for motorists, etc.)

It is further resolved that the above items a) – d) shall be formally scheduled and finished prior to 06/30/2022.

F. Camillo and Task Force members B. DeAngelo and E. Schirmer attended the Byram Neighborhood Association (BNA) quarterly meeting on 11/09/2021 and invited the BNA and the Byram community to review the above-listed suggestions and revert to the Task Force by 11/18/2021.
TOWN OF GREENWICH

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Fred Camillo
First Selectman

Bicycle Task Force Committee
November 18, 2021
6:45 P.M.

Virtual Meeting/ Room Location
https://greenwichct.zoom.us/j/87947304903?pwd=WGtBRWFsOFViQXQvbFlxCTM0S0g2dz09

Meeting ID: 879 4730 4903
Passcode: 3508498
Dial-In: 1 646 518 9805

MINUTES

Task Force Attendance:

J. Michel (Dept. of Public Works),
and T. Clark, St. Martin, B. DeAngelo, E. Schirmer (4 community representatives)
Venue: Town Meeting Room and via Zoom Link, formal part of the meeting started at 07:00 pm
(F. Camillo, J. Siciliano, M. Zanesky were not in attendance;
J. Oberlander and J. Stone MacGuigan were part of the general public audience)

1. Minutes of the October 7, 2021 meeting were approved, per E. Schirmer and seconded by T. Clark.

2. Possible adjustments to Purpose/Mission of the Bicycle Task Force - F. Camillo
3. Confirmation of its Members; possible Additions - F. Camillo

   Given the above-referenced absences, Agenda items 2) and 3) were postponed to the next meeting.

4. No formal Decision/Vote was sought on the 4 proposed action items for the Byram community given the absence of too many Town representatives, however during the Agenda circulation amongst all Task Force Members between November 10 and 18, no objections were raised (and general agreement was understood). The following understanding was reached amongst the Meeting participants:
   - DPW’s J. Michel to formally meet with the Byram Neighborhood Association (“BNA”, via J. Kantorsky) to examine whether James Street East has the (federally) required minimum width of 32 feet and if 2 bike lanes (one in each direction) can be added while still providing two 10.5 feet travel lanes for vehicles, including a review of any parking restrictions. Action
Holder: J. Michel (E. Schirmer added that a brief survey of the residents along James Street East might be helpful).

- B. DeAngelo inquired about the possibility of organizing bicycle safety educational events (“bike rodeos”) at the New Lebanon Elementary School complex. J. Kantorsky welcomed the idea and expressed support (a 1-page event outline would be appreciated). A. Moch added that Byram Shubert Library expressed interest in participating in such an event. Action Holder: B. DeAngelo.

- BNA’s J. Kantorsky further commented on the need for some bigger and more comprehensive bicycling and pedestrian enhancements across Byram, including additional information and evidence: more feedback from schools, better understanding from parents how they accompany their children to school (or how kids bicycle by themselves), some actual traffic flow statistics including picture and video evidence highlighting unsafe areas. (Separately, J. Kantorsky suggested that all 5 of our Town’s bicycle stores be website-listed. Pedal Greenwich’s A. Moor clarified that the bike stores had taken part in the Pedal Greenwich-organized Community Bike Fest on 09/25 and that Pedal Greenwich will review how to list them on their www.pedalgreenwich.org website).

- J. Michel clarified that traffic signage authority on Town’s school grounds lies with the Board of Education (“BoE”). Action Holder: T. Clark will follow-up with BoE (and school staff) and will also obtain an understanding about the bicycle signage at the Byram Shubert Library.

5. During the Any Other Business Items, the following was brought forward:

- J. Oberlander encouraged that a formal Budgetary Line Item for bicycle-related investments be established as quickly as possible (as the process for the Town’s July 2022 – June 2023 Budget) is in its beginning steps following the 11/02 Municipal Elections. E. Schirmer added to this recommendation and asked that a formal update be provided to the Task Force and the Town residents as to how the Town of Greenwich is planning (and starting to budget) for receipts under the bipartisan “Federal Infrastructure Bill” (State of CT allocation: some $5bn). Action Holder: E. Schirmer, to log these items in the Agenda for the 12/14 Task Force meeting (in particular: a request that Office of First Selectman provide for such a Budgetary Line Item for bicycle-related infrastructure improvements).

- B. DeAngelo inquired about bicycle-related measures planned into re-construction of the Cohen-Eastern Civic Community Center. L. Von Brachel asked that an updated on the D. Hamill Ice Rink be included. Action Holder: B. DeAngelo to reach out to J. Siciliano for an update (preferably in person during the 12/14 Task Force meeting, otherwise a brief written update).

- E. Schirmer thanked J. Stone McGuigan for her meeting attendance and expressed (his) wish that the Board of Select Persons, in 2022, would formally declare a 2-day period (Friday and Saturday) as “Greenwich Bicycles to Work, School, Libraries and some short Shopping Errand Days”, possibly near the April 22, 2022, “Earth Day” or the May 22, 2022 national “Bike to Work” events. Action Holder: E. Schirmer

6. Next Task Force Meeting: Tuesday, December 14, 6:45 pm (Town Hall: CONE Room). E. Schirmer adjourned the meeting at 07:59 pm pointing out that the Minutes of this meeting and the Agenda for the December 14 meeting will be posted on the Town’s website: https://www.greenwichct.gov/1964/Bicycle-Task-Force-Committee

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