

Town Administrator's Advisory Committee on Pedestrian Bicycle Pathway
Minutes of the Meeting on Wednesday, October 20, 2021

(Zoom Remote Public Access Meeting)

Members in Attendance: David McPherson, Chair; Ken Cheitlin, Clerk; Mark Emmons; and George Slade (Members absent: John Carroll, Vice Chair)

Others in Attendance: Clelie Fielding and Kelly Race

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Mr. McPherson.

Public Comment: None

Approval of the minutes: *A motion to approve the minutes of the Committee's September 8, 2021 meeting was made by Mr. Emmons, and seconded by Mr. McPherson. The motion passed 3-0 (Mr. Slade not arriving for the meeting until 6:15 p.m.).*

Discussion of Phase 1 public hearing and next steps: Mr. Cheitlin commented that it was good to have that "box checked." Mr. Emmons remarked on the strange fact that the only required public hearing in the process occurs at the 25% design stage. Action items identified were to encourage VHB to move forward with design asap, and, notwithstanding the lack of any formal requirement, to recommend the holding of a second public hearing at the 75% design stage. Mr. Emmons then read into the record Mr. Carroll's email to the Committee members of October 20, 2021: "As I am in DC with family and obligations prevent attendance tonight I wish to say this to members for consideration. Phase 1 reveals the challenges of RwT. The physical limits of the rail corridor, the amount of necessary private property taking, and the costs related to bridges, all are out of reach for RwT on the corridor. Phase 1 effort has made the case for RtT. Using the corridor as a trail serves the greater good. MassDOT has not offered a countering explanation for maintaining the rails."

Discussion of application for Community Preservation town meeting article: The town's request for \$225,000 for further funding of the design of the BRT was unanimously supported by the CPC. The town meeting is on November 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Cheitlin indicated that he would request the assistance of the Friends of the Bourne Rail Trail in publicizing the meeting.

Updates on design work – Phases 2 and 4: As Tim Lydon was not in attendance at the meeting, this item was skipped.

Discussion of parking: The Committee members discussed the need to start identifying options for parking for users of the BRT. Mr. Cheitlin suggested that the now abandoned fire station on Barlows Landing Road would be an excellent parcel for development of a parking lot. Other potential lots suggested included a parcel near the Daily Brew, the so-called Baxendale property, a parcel identified by MJ Mastrangelo, and the Monument Beach parking lot (on a shared use

RECEIVED
2021 NOV 18 AM 9:08
TOWN CLERK BOURNE

basis). Mr. Slade will ask Mr. Lydon to look into these properties. In addition, Mr. Slade will check on properties that have been considered for the new fire station that might be available for trail parking. Ms. Race asked if the Aptuxet VFW lot might be available. Mr. Slade responded that that lot, being little used, might be a good candidate for shared use. Finally, Mr. Emmons inquired whether the Monument Beach fire station will be closed once the new station is built and, if so, whether that might be a good location for a trail lot.

Discussion of MassTrails 2022: Mr. McPherson reported that the application period is now open, with a deadline for applications of February 1, 2022, and that we have been encouraged to apply again, with the recommendation that the application cite a very specific purpose for the grant. Mr. Emmons suggested geotechnical evaluations of embankments. The Committee members agreed to recommend that the town submit an application, with the specific purpose to be identified at a future Committee meeting.

Future meeting dates: Nov. 10, 2021, December 8, 2021, and January 12, 2022, each at 6:00 p.m., at the Pocasset Community Building, or as a Zoom remote public access meeting, depending on the state of pandemic-related restrictions. It was agreed, however, that, in light of the delayed date of the current meeting and the fact that Mr. Lydon's presence at the meetings is important, these meeting dates may be changed after Mr. McPherson confers with Mr. Lydon.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Emmons, seconded by Mr. Cheitlin. The motion passed, 4-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Cheitlin, Clerk

These Minutes were approved by a 3-0 vote of the Members (with one abstention) on November 10, 2021.