



**Bethlehem Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
Meeting Summary
April 23, 2013**

In Attendance

Robert Leslie, Scott Lewendon, Ann Mullaly, Maureen Cunningham, Oliver Holmes, Jill Adams, Jennifer Spore, Ann Benware

Rob announced that Dan Lewis has resigned from the committee for personal reasons and that he will work to get a new person appointed.

Healthy Kids Day is at the YMCA Saturday April 27 and Ann Mullaly will attend to get Roll model signatures.

April/May Bicycle Events

The BCSD has not yet provided a statement to be used with the Roll Model pledge so the temporary pledge cards will only include the Town Supervisor statement for now. It is expected that Fred Powers will have a statement from the DCSD Superintendent by mid May. Fred is also trying to schedule the Roll Model program as an agenda item for an upcoming school board meeting.

Bicycle Skills Course – Local Cub Scout Troop (April 28, 2013) – Scott L. has sent an email to Jeremy Johannesen, the Cub Scout Troop contact, outlining the event. He also informed the troop that he will train any adults that are affiliated with the troop who would like to conduct the event in the future. Scott has not had a reply to his email and will follow up. Scott L., Ann M, Joe P., Ann B., and Jason G. are volunteering to assist with event.

Hamagrael Elementary School Bike to School Day (May 15, 2013) – Maureen C. reported that she is assisting with the organization of the “Ride to School” event at Hamagrael. She is working with Principal Ksanznak.

Det. Michael Whitely, Bethlehem P.D. bicycle Cop, will assist with the event. It is envisioned that Principal Ksanznak and Det. Whitely will lead a bicycle ride with students to school in the morning.

Maureen will organize the fruit and will need assistance with the tabling event at the end of the ride. Maureen has created a flyer for the event and will include a copy of the Roll Model pledge on the back of the flyer. Students will sign the back of the flyer and return it the day of the event or to teachers who will forward it to us

Roll Model Program

Rob has printed up an initial supply of the pledge cards to be used for the Scout event and the Hamagrael Bike to School day. Scott will start to capture names and addresses of those who are signing the pledge cards.

Future event planning- Suggestions of future events include having a bicycle training event at the Farmers Market location. Reserving sufficient space in the back parking area needs to be considered as well as vehicle traffic entering both Middle School driveway locations. An event prior to school getting out for the summer as well as an event in the fall after students return should be considered. Ann B. will check with Farmers Market board for the possibility of having an event. Having a table at the Farmers Market to provide information about the Roll model program should also be considered.

Scott L. suggested that we develop a list of other possible venues to table at. Suggestions include the YMCA summer camp program and Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce events. It was also suggested that we should hold a work session and invite organizations that would assist the committee in furthering the goals of the Roll Model program.

The DARE program was considered for inclusion. Questions about getting the other Bethlehem schools beyond Hamagrael to start this program were discussed. Fred Powers may be useful in this effort.

New items- A long discussion in regard to the Elsmere school crossing on Delaware Avenue brought up many concerns in regard to safety, vehicle speed, traffic calming, road diet, planning studies that have occurred and meetings with both residents to discuss the Town planning in regard to the Delaware Avenue area as well as conversations with the Regional NYS DOT personnel.

Rob described some of the possible solutions discussed with DOT. They included flashing strobes at crosswalk, speed reduction from 40 mph to 30 mph, traffic signals, etc. DOT would consider the removal of the Delaware Avenue crosswalk if there was a new sidewalk on Herrick Avenue.

A possible concept for improvement includes the installation of a sidewalk on Herrick Avenue that would allow students to develop an alternative walk pattern to school. None of the solutions discussed were without some concern but further discussion is clearly warranted.

Date of next meeting: May 28, 2013. Rob Leslie indicated that he would be absent and will need someone to chair the meeting.

Action Items:

Rob to select new member from candidates who submitted in January (this will fill Dan Lewis spot).

Ann to attend YMCA Healthy Kids Day on Saturday and obtain pledge signatures.

Scott, Ann, Anne, and Joe (and Jason Gallo) to attend Bicycle Skills course at Elm Park on Sunday.

Rob to provide Scott with a copies of the "What to Teach Your Child About Riding a Bicycle". (the document is attached for those who are interested).

Rob to send Maureen the latest ROLL MODEL brochure which includes the pledge. She will place the pledge on the back page of the Hamagrael Elementary School Bike to School Day flyer.

Maureen will contact Bill Van Alstyne and Principal K. to confirm the Bike to School Day assembly.

Rob to provide Maureen with the ROLL Model pledge and safety tip palm cards for distribution at Hamagrael Elementary School. Rob to wait for quote from BCSD Superintendent, which Fred is obtaining.

Committee to setup meeting with Chamber of Commerce, BCSD, Cub Scouts, YMCA, other community groups to discuss how to expose the public to the ROLL MODEL campaign.

Rob will not be in attendance at the May 28 meeting so a Committee member will need to lead the agenda discussion.