

## Town of Bethlehem Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Summary of May 25, 2021 meeting

### Attendance.

Henry Peyrebrune (chair), Nate Owens, Dana Scalere (recorder), Connie Kontogiannis, Oliver Holmes, Erin Svare, Erin Rightmeyer, Mindy Scott, Anne Benware

Public Comment- There was no public comment

### Approval of Meeting Summary:

- April 27th meeting summary- approved
- Approval of May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting summary- approved

### Department Updates

- **Police.** No representative.
- **Planning** Anne sent an update (1 pg document) via email; things are moving along. Two presentations are coming up – Eco System Health and Climate Change. Planning Board will look at census data to determine housing availability and feasibility. The Committee discussed community outreach for Bethlehem Forward – table at farmers market, walk and roll festival. The Committee will discuss this at the next meeting. Town staff are putting together a draft video presentation over goals. Next meeting is in October. Skip offered to work with Anne to make a short video (10-15 minutes v. 5 minutes) on the vision.
- **Highway Department.** No representative.
- **Complete Streets Discussion - Delaware Ave**  
Much of the meeting was spent on discussing the Committee's support of the Complete Streets project.
  - Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

### Next 5 Priority Topics

The Committee discussed the top 5 priority areas going forward:

1. Collaboration with School District
  - Not enough bus drivers – good issue to work with schools on
  - Where to put additional flags – Poplar/Elsmere; Adams/Delaware; Feura Bush/Elsmere
  - Erin Svare and Dana offered to work with school districts; Connie offered help as well.
  - Should we hold a Committee meeting in August with the specific focus of collaborating with school districts?
2. Comprehensive Plan Update
3. Committee Support of Complete Streets Project
  - Much of the meeting was spent discussing the committees support of the project (2-1-1 v. 1-1-1).

- Committee on record as supporting 1-1-1; supporting a “Yes” vote on the referendum; and work with groups to promote information.
  - Connie concerned that the process wasn’t followed by the Town
  - See the Bethlehem Community Streets website, which lists project benefits, myths, etc.
  - Committee should spread awareness of the website and review our letter of support.
  - What else can Committee do to reinforce position and pass referendum?
    - Educate the public on the consequences of a no vote
      - No sidewalks
      - No curb cutouts
      - \$5m of federal funds lost
4. Sidewalk Maintenance Program – Mark should do sidewalk assessment and we would help with analytics; Henry to lead.
5. Monitoring Road Maintenance Issues
- Affects bike and pedestrian activities
  - Skip is the appointed liaison by the town; Skip will attend upcoming meeting

**Other Items discussed.**

- Nate reviewed the Priority Network Map (2012 v. 2021). Nice work on the detailed map!
  - Committee should review and vote. We agreed to send email/comments to Nate in the next few weeks so he can incorporate the updates. We can approve via email.

**Summary- Follow up items**

- Getting information on Bethlehem Forward to the public
- Areas of agreement on Complete Streets?
- Wish list of “see me flags” locations?
  - Feura Bush at Sudbury/Manor
  - Cherry and Orchard
  - Delaware and Adams
  - Kenwood and Juniper Drive
- Should we have an August meeting focused on collaboration with the school district?