

Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2025

6:30 PM

COMMITTEE ACTION ITEM FOR JUNE 2025

-Committee members will use June 2025 meeting to discuss yearly goal for the committee. Measurable Goal ideas will be discussed and action plan to be worked on starting in September 2025 will be discussed. Ideas proposed at May meeting: (1) reduction of speed in designated high risk area; (2) increase bicycle usage by X percent in designated high risk area; (3) Revise Town's Complete Streets Policy with comparison to other similar municipalities.

Attendees

Peter Thomas

Steve Redler

Nate Owens (Town Rep)

Jean Kerr

Oliver Holmes (Skip) (Chair)

Jennifer Livingston

Elizabeth Vasquez

Jeff Baker

Public Comment: None

Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes: March and April 2025 – Approved

Discussion with Town Supervisor: Discussed projects that the Town has engaged in that are relevant to this Committee. We discussed the Committee's role over the last several years to provide advice to the Town. We discussed our role in messaging to the community and to the Town Representatives about the impact of projects the Town is considering or should consider related to the Committee's priorities. Committee expressed concerns that when the community presented concerns to the Committee there is no additional steps that we are aware of to ensure that community members are being heard. There are lot of things that needs to be known by the community and this Committee is charged with gathering information and advise the Town. Also, because the Committee is made up of members from different areas of Bethlehem the voices of the diverse areas are being represented. This has resulted in focus in areas that may not be heard otherwise.

Discussed the ways it might be more effective. Discussed the Town's communication and messaging challenges and ways the Committee might be helpful with communication and messaging.

Department Updates:

Police Department: No representative present

Highway Department: No representative present.

Planning Department: Updates attached as addendum to meeting minutes

Safe Streets Campaign:

Traffic Safety Committee -community requests

Discussed ways of communicating speeds to help reduce behavior. Discussed using the platform on traffic speed to message to the community to see if there is a reduction in speed with better communication. The Committee discussed idea of sharing data via the school districts about the different school district and speeds (maybe discuss plan for September).

Trader Joe's Project: Project was approved (May Planning Meeting). They have conditions as part of approval (engineering related). Developer will pay for a pedestrian crosswalk and pedestrian signal at Murry (Glenmont Plaza). Committee mentioned more pedestrian activity at the roundabout.

Committee Goals Discussed:

The Committee discussed measurable goal setting for the next year so the Committee can work towards that goal. For example, goals such as: (1) Reduction of speed in certain regions; (2) Increase bicycle usage in certain regions (3) redo the Towns Complete Streets Policy. Discussed using June meeting as a planning meeting for goals for September 2025.

Adjourn 8:30 PM