



**Town of Bethlehem
Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee**

Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2025

6:30 PM

In person and Zoom

Attendees:

Peter Thomas
Steve Redler
Nate Owen (Town Rep)
Marc Dorsey (Highway Rep)
Jean Kerr
Oliver Holmes (Skip)(Chair)
Jennifer Livingston
Elizabeth Vasquez
Jeff Baker
Dee Fisher-Golden
Richard Thomas
Sarah Rain
Nicole

- Public Comment -no comment

- Department Updates
 - Police Department -no representative present for update
 - **Highway Department** – Sidewalk Elsmere to Murry were awarded for construction. Murry speed humps will be installed shortly.
 - **Planning Department Update** sent prior to meeting -Committee asked questions about rail trail project: discussed rail trail projects; discussed signage on rail trail - signs will be installed at each junction; discussed potential future projects, currently crosswalk at New Scotland -that is where the connection terminates. Also discussed crosswalk at circle and bike crossing.
 - Blessing update: Town to work with DOT for how to connect path and signage.
 - Discussed needing keep being aggressive to go after grants to address sidewalk repair projects.

- **Brainstorming Session Update:**

- Reviewed notes from last meeting's brainstorming session. Notes included with minutes.
 - **Event Activities** (Tabling, Committee led bike, walk, run, skills course)
 - **Outreach and Education** (letters to media, social media, safe streets, surveys, update to committee website, share committee efforts)
 - **Getting Around** (Bike connections, update bike routes, identify connectivity most needed, YMCA connection planning, MHLC, Arboretum, Hudson River Park, Wayfinding)
 - Discussed prioritizing YMCA sidewalk -maybe seeking specific grants for this because cost of installation of sidewalk is going to be more expensive. The Committee questioned whether there would be future development beyond YMCA to address this need. There currently is not any interest, so it is unlikely that development will address sidewalk need that the committee is seeking.
 - Beacon Road is also a new connection that is requested. Since the Committee and Town are focusing on maintenance these have not been a priority.
 - Committee discussed setting times at upcoming meetings to talk about new development
 - **Policy** (grant support, update Complete Street policy)
 - **Research and Analysis** (data gathering and analysis, communicate data with charts and graphs, case studies, bike rack inventory, best practices research survey).
 - **Community Building** (League of American Bicyclists, Coordinate activities with local business and chapter of commerce, Bike shops, PTA outreach, Bike/Walk Passport)
- Committee decided to create three subcommittees to group the above topic areas: Communication, Community Building, and Research and Analysis.
- Committee broke into subcommittees to propose next steps