

**TOWN OF LYNDON**  
**BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**October 24, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Approved 12/18/17

**Committee Members:** Lew Apgar, Ben Rush, Cathy Boykin, Harry Morrison

**Public Official(s):** Annie McLean

**Public:** Jill Morrison, Bill Humphrey (LED), Paul Markowitz (Efficiency Vermont)

Lew Apgar chaired the meeting, which was called to order at 5:06 p.m.

Cathy Boykin made a **motion to approve the minutes of September 12, 2017 as written**. Harry Morrison **seconded the motion**. The Committee **voted 4-0**.

Bill Humphrey from Lyndonville Electric Department (LED) gave a brief introduction of LED's planned upcoming inventory of their existing street lighting and possible conversion to light-emitting diode (LED) fixtures. Mr. Humphrey then introduced Paul Markowitz from Efficiency Vermont.

Mr. Markowitz gave a brief overview of Efficiency Vermont's roll as the state energy efficacy utility and their program to assist municipalities with assessment of their current street lighting to determine what they have and what is actually needed. Bill Humphrey noted that Lyndonville's first street lights were installed in 1896. Mr. Markowitz noted that Efficiency Vermont provided incentives of up to \$100 per fixture replaced with an LED fixture or removed, noting that the neighboring towns of Jay, Canaan, Newport, Derby, and Craftsbury had completely converted. He added that the benefits of LED lighting included: 1) more directional lighting; 2) more efficient lighting; and, 3) at approximately \$200 per fixture they will pay for themselves in energy savings.

The Town of Lyndon has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Efficiency Vermont to receive technical assistance for an assessment of its existing street lighting. The goal of the assessment in Lyndon/Lyndonville is to evaluate where new lighting is needed and where existing lighting is appropriate or should be removed, i.e. add, delete, or keep. The steps in this process would be as follows:

1. Inventory of existing street lights
2. Need assessment, create map of lighting zones
3. Test lighting levels of existing lights (walk-through)
4. Compare inventory to walk-through

Mr. Humphrey explained that LED was looking for volunteers to test existing lighting levels and recommended additional lighting in areas of high pedestrian traffic, such as intersections and cross-walks. He noted that there are currently about 667 municipal street lights in Lyndonville proper (excluding Lyndon Corner). Mr. Markowitz added that a community support element and public process was critical for the success of the project, citing inviting feedback using signage on light poles slated for removal as was done in Montpelier. Harry Morrison added (fun fact) that Lyndonville was featured in a 1940s issue of *Popular Science Magazine* for its installation of fluorescent street lighting along Main Street. The Committee agreed that they would support LED's inventory project and help with the testing of existing lighting. Mr. Humphrey will follow up with the Committee on next steps and Mr. Markowitz will share copies of Efficiency Vermont's *Guide to Improving Efficiency in Municipal Street and Public Space Lighting*.

The Committee discussed the draft letter to the Selectboard advocating for additional public information sessions in Lyndon on the proposed VTrans "2020" Route 5 Plan. The Committee agreed to send the

letter as written and asked Annie McLean to request some time for the Committee to discuss this issue on an upcoming Selectboard agenda.

Lew Apgar volunteered to prepare an application on the Committee's behalf for a 2018 Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital Community Health Fund Grant for kiosks at the park and ride and municipal parking offices parking lot. Mr. Apgar will submit the application (due November 1<sup>st</sup>) and Ms. McLean will run the proposal by the Town Selectboard as the project would be installed on Town properties.

Annie McLean indicated that she had not prepared additional maps for the identification of the disconnected sidewalk segments in Town and suggested that this agenda item be postponed until the next meeting. The Committee agreed.

Lew Apgar updated the Committee on the traffic counts for the intersection of College Road and Center Street, indicating that Doug Morton from NVDA would be installing counters soon. He also reiterated that there did not seem to be a national standard for best practices for crosswalks and noted that some European countries actually found pedestrian crossing to be safer without crosswalks and it forces pedestrians to pay more attention.

Annie McLean asked for volunteers to take meeting minutes in her absence during the January 2018 meeting (and possibly the December 2017 meeting). Harry Morrison tentatively volunteered.

Ben Rush provided an example tourist map from the Moosehead Lake Region in Maine as an example of what might work in Lyndon and the surrounding area to promote businesses and outdoor recreational opportunities. Mr. Rush will ask the chair of the visual arts department at LSC if the graphics portion of a map might be a project students could take on.

The next **Lyndon Bike and Ped Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.