

Town of Lyndon
Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
April 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes
APPROVED

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

Lew Apgar chaired the meeting, which began at 5:24 p.m.

Ms. Boykin made a motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting. Mr. Rush seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Apgar provided an update on the kiosk project. Ms. Knapinski has been working with the students from Lyndon Institute (LI) to prepare the final kiosk and press release. Certain Town officials will need to be involved in the process of actually siting the kiosks to avoid underground utility lines and to be in compliance with other regulations.

In relation to the walker's guide to Lyndon, Mr. Apgar received direction from Laurel Ruggles, who will be the point of contact for Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS). He reiterated his concern for possibly eliminating certain unsafe routes, such as the three routes that involve the Back Center Road loop. There was some discussion about the disadvantage of removing the "Big Stevens Loop," but the advantage of removing the Back Center Road might provide better visibility for in-town loops on the map. Ms. Nichols noted that a regular local walker, Claire Morrison, identified several areas of concern on the Back Center Road, that at the very least, could be highlighted on the map as areas in which to use extra caution. Mr. Apgar said the timeline for making suggested improvements to the map is up to the Committee, but he suggested that we pick a date and attempt to walk or bike the different routes to determine the suitability of each. Mr. Rush suggested removing some of the unimportant streets from the map in order to make the map more readable. Mr. Morrison suggested moving the in-town loops to the larger map in order to maximize visibility.

For an update on the potential trail between Powers Park and Bandstand Park, Mr. Morrison reminded the Committee that he had reached out to the Williams family, who were not interested in allowing a path along their property. Mr. Apgar contacted Town Planner, Annie McLean, to determine if the roadway is a part of the Town right-of-way. Mr. Morrison will work with Ms. McLean to determine the legality of creating a trail along this section of the river.

Mr. Apgar reminded the Committee that the Lyndon Town School Safety Fair will be held on the morning of May 11th. This year, Ms. Knapinski will assist Mr. Apgar in providing bike licenses for participants. In the future, Mr. Apgar would like to add a "bike inspection station" to encourage riders to make sure their bikes are road worthy. Ms. Nichols suggested that the LI Bike Tech Program could potentially be involved in the future in an effort to help maintain bikes for young riders.

Ms. Boykin noted that the Envision Lyndon workshops will be occurring over the next few months. She highlighted the Health and Wellness workshop, which will be held on July 10th, and suggested that it might be valuable for members of the Committee to be present.

Mr. Apgar attended the Safe Routes Everywhere conference and noted that there are some potential grant opportunities from organizations such as AARP, VTrans, and other arts-based programs. He noted that it might be worth applying for grants to further certain projects. Ms. Boykin noted that the Vermont Department of Forest Parks and Recreation has given grants in the past several years for trail-related projects in the Northeast Kingdom. The Committee should pay attention to future news for more grant opportunities. Mr. Morrison suggested that the Committee communicate with the Village Trustees to determine their vision for pedestrian and biker accessibility moving forward.

Mr. Apgar adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 14th at 5:15 p.m.