

TOWN OF LYNDON
BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
September 11, 2018 Meeting Minutes
APPROVED 2/12/19

Committee Members: Lew Apgar, Cathy Boykin, Benji Tessier, Jill Nichols, Harry Morrison

Lew Apgar chaired the meeting, which began at 5:21 p.m.

Ms. Nichols suggested adding an agenda item to contact Northern Vermont University (NVU) student Bryanna Smith to learn the status of the map project. Mr. Apgar will report back to the Committee on this at the next meeting.

Approval of the meeting minutes from August was tabled until next month to ensure a quorum.

Ms. Boykin reported out about the information she shared at the Rotary meeting in August. Rotary has been very supportive since 2004 of the Path Around Lyndon (PAL). PAL began as an idea in 2002 with a goal of helping Lyndon become a safe walking town. In 2004, PAL was awarded a consultation grant by the National Park Service. The long-term vision that existed at that time involved four phases. The first part of Phase 1 was to make improvements to the Little Steven's Loop, including adding adequate sidewalks and curbs. The second part of Phase 1 was to add curbs and sidewalks along College Road. Phase 2 involved the Big Stevens Loop, while Phase 3 was a vision to create the River Walk, a path from Route 122 to Route 5 at Hoagies. Phase 4 was a broader vision to create pedestrian connections to towns to the north and south. In the subsequent years, PAL convened stakeholders, undertook feasibility studies, persuaded VTrans to keep the temporary footbridge over the Passumpsic River, and facilitated river clean up. With help from Rotary, PAL planted 700 trees along the LI fields and worked with NVRH/Corner Medical to create walking maps. PAL experienced a lull after 2008, but became newly invigorated in 2014. In 2016, Lyndon became a part of the Safer Streets Project with Local Motion. Shortly thereafter the Walk and Bike Safety Plan was adopted. On April 11, 2017 the current Committee was established. Ms. Boykin reported that at this time, Rotary needs permission from Lyndon Institute (LI) to repair an eroded section of trail.

Mr. Apgar explained the latest challenges associated with the River Walk kiosks. Essentially due to floodplain restrictions, the foundation and height of the kiosks will need to change to meet the Development Review Board (DRB) requirements. Increasing the height of the kiosk would require a design change that would involve modifying the existing posts or purchasing taller posts. The final River Trail map was examined and greatly appreciated. Ms. Tessier pointed out that the sign needs to be in a highly visible, well-lit location to deter vandalism. Mr. Apgar noted that there would probably be enough money remaining to cover the kiosk with cedar shingles. Ms. Tessier suggested that Rotary is willing to give money for this type of project, but they require specific details about what the money will be used for. Mr. Morrison prompted the Committee with next steps, including re-evaluating the current locations. He suggested that to satisfy the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation requirements, it might be easiest to move the kiosk to the front lawn of the Municipal Building along Park Avenue. The Committee examined the location and was overall in favor of such a move. Mr. Apgar will be in touch with Town Planner, Annie McClane, to discuss changes to the sign locations and structures.

Mr. Morrison and Ms. Boykin will continue working on the street light inventory for the Lyndonville Electric Department (LED). Mr. Morrison will contact Bill Humphrey at LED to gain access to a digital copy of the data sheets in order to ensure efficient capturing of street light data.

Mr. Apgar will add an agenda item for the next meeting to provide information about bollards that may be placed in St. Johnsbury to help provide pedestrian crossing visibility. Money may be available from the Town for this type of enhancement in Lyndon, particularly at the intersection of Center Street and College Street.

Mr. Apgar adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m. The next meeting will be at **5:15 p.m. on Tuesday October 9th.**