

## **Minutes of the Bedford Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, October 4, 2023**

### ***BBAC Members Present***

Richard Baughman                      Aaron Bourret  
Garth McCavana                        Peter Weichman

### ***BBAC Members Absent***

Samantha Baron

### ***Select Board Liaison Present***

Paul Mortensen

This is a remote meeting, recorded through Zoom. A quorum was present and the meeting came to order at 7:30 pm, Peter Weichman presiding.

*Public Comments:* Former BBAC chair, Mark Bailey, thanked the current members of the Committee for sustaining the charge of BBAC, and urged them to focus on both large and small issues.

*Liaison Reports:* Paul Mortensen, the newly appointed liaison to the BBAC from the Select Board, introduced himself and urged the committee members to contact him if he could be of assistance in any way.

*Active Transit and Safe Routes to School:* Aaron reported on that morning's gathering at the Bank of America plaza for children to ride to Job Lane School via the Narrow Gauge Trail. Some parents rode with their children on their own bikes and some dropped the children off at the plaza. Three adults accompanied the children on the trail. It was, however, somewhat difficult to gauge how big the turnout for the event was as they were joined by a group of 10-12 children who regularly ride their bikes to school via the Narrow Gauge.

Overall, it was adjudged to be a very successful event with a very good turnout. The wonderful weather was no doubt a contributing factor.

One problem arose, however, when the group encountered a part of the trail behind the VA Hospital which was very sandy due to the recent torrential rain. Three of the children were forced to dismount and walk as they could not make their way through the sand, and one actually fell off their bike.

It was suggested that Aaron should contact Jeanette Rebecchi, the Transportation Program Manager of Bedford, to suggest that the DPW undertake some repairs on the Narrow Gauge Trail. Aaron said that he would contact Jeanette.

*Safety and Courtesy Signs:* Discussion occurred about the safety and courtesy signs that the Town of Lexington has posted on the Minuteman Bikeway in Lexington. Aaron shared a map of the placement of the signs on the stretch of the Minuteman closest to Bedford. Additionally, he

showed photos of the signs at those locations as well as a slide which indicated all the different signs that Lexington has posted on its sections of the Minuteman.

There was general agreement among the Committee members that the signs were well designed and very appropriate for the Minuteman. A discussion ensued about how many signs, and which ones the Committee would recommend to the DPW to be placed on Bedford's section of the Minuteman.

The Committee finally decided upon the following eight signs, to be placed in pairs of two:

***Warn When Passing***

***Allow Space***

***Wait to Pass***

***Safe to Pass***

***Folks Around? Slow Down***

***Keep Kids Safe***

***Move Over When Stopped***

***Ride Single Walk Double***

*(3 people talking)*

Peter agreed to contact the Lexington BAC to get more information on the cost and design of the signs.

Aaron agreed to mention the issue to Jeanette Rebecchi when he was in contact with her about the repairs needed on the Narrow Gauge.

It was recommended that the Committee be specific in its request to the DPW – how many signs, and where they should be placed.

*New Business:* Concern was raised about the need to increase the numbers on the Committee. It was suggested that the BAC approach the Bedford Volunteer Coordinating Committee to remind them of the need for new members.

*Adjournment:* At 8:18 pm a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

*-Minutes submitted by Secretary/Clerk, Garth McCavana*

*Approved, 11/01/23*