



Watertown Bi-Ped Committee

Monthly Meeting March 7, 2011



Next Meeting
Monday, April 4, 7:30 PM
Administration Building

Minutes of Watertown Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee

Present: Steve Engler, Maria Saiz, Peri Onipede, Rob Van Dyk, Natalie Truesdell, Brad Parsons

Note: Sheila representing committee at Mt. Auburn Design meeting

* Item: Snow Removal

- Steve Engler attended a couple of DPW meetings regarding this past winter and the snow removal issues
- Gerry Mee explained that this was the first year they did not clear to the curbs, probably will clear a wider section next season
- Conveyed that police are not going to patrol sidewalks, will only act on complaints or 'known' problem areas
- Bus stop issues raised during our meeting, it was very difficult to get to the bus once it stopped

* Item: Community Safe Routes to School

- No new news

* Item: Charles River Ale/wife Connector Path

- Open Space Zoning Protection
 - Danielle Evans found Town council approval however the zone has not been incorporated in the zoning map
- Committee is exploring Safe User guide for bike week, Natalie taking lead

* Item: Community Path

- Steve continuing exploration of "Pathway Overlay District"

* Item: Bicycle Master Plan Update

- Steve found original plan from 2003
- Plan will be forwarded to D. Evans & S. Magoon for inclusion in Comprehensive Town Plan

* Item: Updated bicycle parking ordinance

- Rob to speak with Danielle, idea is to incorporate parking ordinance into master plan

* Item: MBTA Bike Parking

- Watertown Square bike port to be installed this Spring
- Watertown MBTA Yard still being discussed and reviewed

* Item: MAPC Bicycle Parking Program

- Opportunity for more bike racks as there is funding available
- Committee needs to look at current ones to assess damage from winter
 - It was noted by Maria that some have mysteriously been turned an are no longer usable
 - Not sure if it was from frost upheaval or plow damage
 - BMP to find spreadsheet which details all of the racks installed under the original MAPC grant and send to the group

* Item: Traffic Commission

- Traffic Commission is not receptive to member of WBPC sitting on their commission
 - "If we're on it, then everyone would be on it."
- WBPC agreed that we should and can present to this committee to advocate bicycle and pedestrian concerns

*** Item: Grove Street Economic Study**

- Tufts group leading this study and looking to interview a member of the committee who lives in East Watertown
- Peri expressed willingness to participate

*** Item: Website Cost**

- Mike Driscoll i.e. town will reimburse the annual cost of the website