



# Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

Town of Watertown  
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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**  
STEVE ENGLER, CHAIR  
NICK CUTAIA  
ETHAN DAVIS  
SHEILA FAY  
JANET JAMESON  
MARIA SAIZ  
NATALIE TRUESDELL

## MEETING MINUTES

### Attendees:

Committee Members: Steve Engler, Chair, Nick Cutaia, Ethan Davis, Janet Jameson, Maria Saiz, Natalie Truesdell  
Guests: Gideon Schrieber (Community Development and Planning), Michael Albino

1. Acceptance of Minutes
2. MAPC Wellness grant: Watertown received a second wellness grant from MAPC which is \$10,000 safe routes to school grant. The goal is to have all of the elementary and middle schools participate. It provides funding for Jeannette Belcher-Shepis to work on it so there is more sustainability and long term sponsorship is through the schools. Gideon volunteered to provide support. The School Department was the recipient.
3. Watertown Greenway:
  - a. A Phase 1 Clean-up: Steve has contacted the cub scouts and boy scouts for a day of Phase 1 Clean up. It would nice if we could have some announcement at that point for Phase 2. It would be also nice if we could set it up as a block party. Clean up and celebration of the path would be the goal. Steve, Natalie and Janet will work on planning this.
  - b. No updates on phase 2: The state is negotiating to buy the path from where it ends to the Fresh Pond. We are hoping that it is moving in the right direction.
  - c. Connection to the Charles River: Need to follow-up with the design assistance from MAPC. Need to follow-up with DPW on potential for the Connection to the Charles River. Gideon will follow up.
  - d. Mural Project Update: The path behind White Street, has a wall that is the goal. Have met with and interviewed some initial artists. They have discussed preparations for the wall. Some high school students and other local artists are on the committee. The first panels may be completed this summer.
  - e. Planning has met with the 290 Pleasant site developers. Before they can have occupancy they are required to have a plan for the rail path. Planning is advocating for movement forward, where the path would be behind DPW, by the old bridge on Main Street and the Half-way café. One question is where the entrance should be, and Bacon street is under consideration. There are some grade issues with the site that makes it difficult.
  - f. An additional path consideration is that if a condominium development at 192 Pleasant street is approved by the town, there will be an access point to the path. (near Myrtle Street) Current ordinance for this area does not require mixed use in certain places. There may be need for signaled crossing for pedestrian/bike access.
4. No update on accident data. We had requested actual locations, and additional data.
5. Traffic Commission Meeting 2/27: There was a presentation of where stops would be removed, and which parts would be added. The routes under discussion were the 71 and the 57 routes. The presentation is available on the web.
6. Joint subcommittee of public works and public safety meeting re: snow clearing 3/6. This meeting is focused on snow clearing on private ways.
7. Comprehensive Plan Meeting on 3/7: The goal is to have a discussion of 100 people or more. There will be brake out of different discussions based on places. The first visioning and issue identification will be discussed based on places. The plan will be looking at land use and transportation looking across the entire town using vision to develop and goals and strategies. This is the first real comprehensive plan for Watertown. The meeting will be at the Middle school.
8. Live Well Watertown Task Force Meeting 3/12 Bike-Ped Presentation: Draft Report needs to be finalized for the next meeting. Convening a group of town departments and town wide and the groups that are doing in wellness. This includes the Watertown Citizens, Watertown gardens group. They decided to use the CHNA 17 funding to convene these groups. The time is 4-6pm at the library. The Live Well Watertown website is now live.
9. Conflict of Interest Law-complete online training program by 4/5. Gideon will re-send the link.
10. Riding on sidewalks has come up through a few emails where people have asked whether it is an ordinance to not ride on sidewalks. Steve will send an ordinance which indicates that riding on sidewalks is not allowed for further review and possible revision. Current ordinance would prohibit children for example from riding on sidewalks.
11. Website and Blog. Our subscription is expiring for our blog. The question is whether to keep it for now for \$30, or transition it to the Live Well site. Idea for interactive mapping of accidents.