



## Connecticut Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board

*Volunteer board members advising agencies of the state on policies, programs, and facilities for bicycles and pedestrians.*

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### REGULAR MEETING NOTES

Friday September 28, 2018, 8:45 AM

DOT Headquarters, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06111, Room B

#### 1.0 Preliminaries

#### 1.1 Call to Order/Roll Call

Sandy Fry (Chair), Joe Balskus (Secretary), Rod Parlee, Al Sylvester, Tom Branchaud (on the telephone), Neil Pade

Ken Shooshan-Stoller, FHWA (on phone)  
Bob Dickinson, South Windsor  
Melanie Zymyeski, CTDOT  
Amy Watkins, Watch for me CT  
Susan Smith, BikeWalk CT  
Ken Messier tri trikes and iron horse ebike  
Alec Slatky AAA Northeast  
Robert Bell, CTDOT Policy and Planning  
Wade Summers, CTDOT Rights Of Way

#### 1.2 Minutes

August meeting notes adopted by the Board – Secretary prepared the meetings

#### 1.3 Input from Visitors (5 minutes)

Bob suggested information be considered for The Dutch Reach graphic  
Ken Messier – TriTrikes – manufacturer of recumbent bikes – retail store in Simsbury, potentially interested in joining the board  
Ken Shooshan-Stoller – need to get past meeting notes onto DOT website

#### 2.0 Reports

#### 2.1 DOT Projects and News

Active Transportation plan – few more changes being considered by the commissioner and then issued to steering committee before being released to public by end of 2018. The final plan will be ~25 pages

Community Connectivity Program – 40 approved Towns. Meetings being scheduled for reviewing the rules with the Towns, since this is a new program. Towns may be grouped by Districts or Regions. Environmental review is ongoing internally at DOT

Response to the letter on the highway design manual from CTDOT? Matt Vale generated response – not received by the Board yet. DOT is working on restructuring the committee for the highway design manual revision. DOT is developing a scope for FHI to do three tasks: bike network evaluation, design guideline development, and interactive web site. The Board noted the value of having the ability to report issues on the interactive website.

It was noted that the DOT website is what it is and staff cannot impact it very much. DOT had misinterpreted Board meeting notes which discussed the need for a website overhaul, the Board was referring to the CTbikeped.org website, not DOT website

Hop River State Park Trail – status of opening date – likely Spring 2019

Putnam Bridge update – just starting design on approaches to bridge

## **2.2 Bike Walk CT Update**

Discover CT Bike Tour in New Britain on Sunday

Friday night Nov 2 – Bike Walk annual dinner – Roger Geller confirmed as keynote speaker.

Chion Wolf will MC the Peoples Choice Awards

Bike Rodeos can be held and bikes on loan (League Cycling Instructor required)

Cromwell 2-day conference of CT Physical Education teachers, BWCT will attend to promote 4<sup>th</sup> grade bike program

Mobile bike racks (bike parking) obtained to allow valet bike parking at events such as Glastonbury 350<sup>th</sup> event, modeled after Burlington

## **2.3 Watch For Me CT Update**

Sponsoring premarathon bike ride on Hartford Marathon route

One day seminar jointly with CTDOT Highway Safety office held police officer training on bike ped laws – 30 participants – future training opportunities, in partnership with NHTSSA

Sept 26 WFMCT in partnership with New Britain police held a crosswalk pedestrian safety seminar held awareness on safe crossings – would like to do in other Towns

Oct 10 Ped Safety Summit in Waltham MA – free registration

Dutch reach messaging – WFMCT can publicize as well

### **Additional Reports**

AAA – Northeast

Representative covers Fairfield, Litchfield and New Haven counties

Welcome partnerships with other organizations and supporting programs on pedestrians and school bus safety and safety patrol

Autonomous vehicle midday seminar being held in Stamford on Oct 12, CTDOT participating and autonomous vehicle task force attending

### **State Greenway Coordinator**

Bruce Donald - Tristate coordinator for east coast greenway alliance, sent an email to Sandy, desires coalition formation on legislation to limit liability of railroads in corridors used for trails  
Recent CT legislation did not cover this

CT Greenways Council Trials Summit on Oct 25

## **3.0 Old Business**

### **3.1 2017 Report – Distribution and Implementation**

- Highway Design Manual – letter to Commissioner

Commissioner has requested a meeting with Sandy on Oct 17

- Review recommendations – to be emailed to committee  
Review report for next year and progress  
Recommendation No. 8 – Revise to show it should support BWCT

### 3.2 **Website Update – Improvements; Communication Management/ Policy**

Glitch with website being worked out with weebly.com. Sandy to reach out to past board member regarding website information needed to address issue

### 3.3 **Membership**

Discussion on appointees and desire to fill vacancy with bike shop owner (through Governors office)

Sandy will inquire with Rep. Ritter’s office to determine if the term of his appointee has expired. Board member Dibenedetto to be addressed through Sen Ritter to open up another vacancy

### 4.0 **New Business**

- Meeting schedule 2019

Board approved presented schedule for 2019 meetings starting at 9am. Meeting dates are as follows:

January 25, 2019  
February 22, 2019  
March 22, 2019  
April 26, 2019  
May 24, 2019  
June 28, 2019  
July 26, 2019  
August 23, 2019  
September 27, 2019  
October 24, 2019  
November 22, 2019  
December 20, 2019

Dates and new time were approved unanimously.

- Annual Report for 2018  
Need to review next month  
Front and back with the single sheet on recommendations to be considered again
- Other New Business – Rod asked - how can we assure that 11 ft lanes are considered with utility work on roads. Answer – this is a difficult issue, the utility company is obliged to put the road back the way it was, there probably needs to be proactivity on the part of citizens to impact these types of projects, and it has to be timely.

Meeting adjourned at 9:58pm. Meeting notes prepared by Secretary.

Next Meeting – October 26, 2018, 8:45 AM

**Unable to attend? You can still participate:**

Using your computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/900550389>

OR

You can also dial in using your phone: United States +1 (312) 757-3121

Access Code: 900-550-389

**NOTE TO PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:**

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or other accommodation at a meeting must notify the Connecticut Department of Transportation in advance of the meeting as soon as they are able.