



Connecticut Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board

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



2800 Berlin Turnpike • Newington, CT 06111-4113
ctbikepedboard@gmail.com

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

Friday January 25, 2019, 9 AM
DOT Headquarters, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06111, Room B

- 1.0 Preliminaries
- 1.1 Call to Order/Roll Call
Meeting called to order at 9:04 AM
On Phone, Joe Balskus, Tom Branchaud, Brian Kent and Francis Pickering
Present – Sandy Fry, Rod Parlee, Al Sylvestre, Ray Rauth, Sue Smith and Neil Pade
Bob Dickinson South Windsor, Amy Watkins WatchforMeCT
Melanie Zimyeski DOT Staff
- 1.2 Minutes
Minutes from the December 21, 2018 meeting accepted with the following changes: Additional business, change “Board is not interested in providing letter of support.” to “The Board, as a matter of policy does not provide letters of support for grants competitive within Connecticut.” Correct spelling of Melanie Zimyeski’s name
- 1.3 Input from Visitors (5 minutes)
None
- 2.0 Reports/Presentations
- 2.1 DOT Projects and News
Melanie gave a report on active transportation plan and current review of comments being received.

Second phase of Active Transportation Plan (development of a guide book) has commenced with consultant.

Second round of Community Grant award letters have been transmitted.
- 2.2 Bike Walk CT Update
Sue reviews dooring law summary update. CT is one of 9 states that does not have a dooring law. Reviews draft of legislation and education priorities for 2019 from Bike Walk CT. Detailed handout provided and reviewed, “Bike Walk Connecticut Advocacy Priorities for 2019 January 2019”.

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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.



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June, BWCT will be coordinating ride in Falls Village. New Britain ride scheduled for September.

Sue is available to meet with representatives of municipalities to give a 1 hour presentation on the 4th grade education workshop initiative.

2.3 Watch For Me CT Update

Amy – reviewing number of pedestrian deaths from news reports compared to UCONN Database. Discrepancies notes. Being sent to crash repository for review and update. Looking to get actual updated information on fatalities and injuries. Details will be provided in WatchforMe news letter that will go out next week.

Injury prevention center plans to do a study of all pedestrian crashes in Hartford over the past 4 years.

Currently reviewing pedestrian fatalities on interstate highways. Amy brought attention to a law in Europe that requires vehicles to have reflective vests for all passengers.

Looking at a summit on Vision 0 and Complete Streets in June in New Haven
The website will be redone..

3.0 Old Business

3.1 2018 Report

- Hand out copies
- Aspirational goals for next year?
- Next steps

Copies of final draft distributed. Sandy reviewed updates. Final recipients of senate to be added.

Welcome letter to Governor added. First paragraph of letter to Governor, change remove “over the next year” from second sentence.

Sandy reviewed priorities represented in the report and implementing agencies. Delete last sentence of letter, and associated typos.

Motion to issue and transmit 2018 report made by AI, Seconded by Francis. Unanimously approved.

Aspirational goals tabled to “retreat”

3.2 Website update progress

Brian gave an update on the status of the website, he is now able to access the

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website to make changes. Board members to review updated website prior to retreat.

3.3 Membership

Sandy relayed she made contact with Representative Ritter about Doug's lack of attendance. Ritter's staff will look into however seemed open to making replacement appointments if needed.

3.4 State Bike Plan

Sandy reviewed e-mail from Tom Maziarz releasing the final plan, but acknowledges they did not include more complicated comments received. They will be working on a subsequent collaborative process to provide additional updates to the Plan.

Brian – reviewed issues with interactive map in the South East Corridor. First layer of information accessed is only going over state ROW. Is that a pre-requisite for state bike routes that no local routes can be utilized for a state bike route? Potential local alternatives are provided on other layers. Routes need to be vetted and formalized whether local or state. Brian reviewed an example in New London shown on the map that is dangerous and possibly illegal. Example provided of someone trying to navigate Gold Star Bridge using published map.

Francis pointed out we had prior discussions in 2008-2009 and the application and they were not resolved.

Neil pointed out that he submitted comments on numerous occasions over the process of developing the mapping for changes in published routes that were inaccurate in the area he represents and in the draft and final draft reviews and they were not included, but has been repeatedly told they will be included later. He represented his concern that the Final document was published with known inaccurate information.

Sandy relayed concerns of making a map available for use to the public that is not accurate and may result in a dangerous situation as pointed out by Brian's comment.

Concerns raised on how the Plan was modified to pull out local roads. Focus should be on, **“how does one get around the state on a bike”** as opposed to the decision to focus on State owned roads in the plan.

Neil read an e-mail from David Elder noting staff received multiple comments and that they recognize they need to work with municipalities to bring information up to date.

Melanie is participating in an internal meeting on the next steps. The Board asked to relay the concern on the inaccuracies in the information that was published and that it is prioritized for resolution as soon as possible.

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4.0 New Business

- 4.1 Retreat proposal – how to set up meeting, what to accomplish
9 AM start time at VHB Office in Wethersfield on February 22nd. Discussion ensued on organization of meeting and topics.

What are roles; Aspirational goals for bike ped in the State; Making the case for bike-ped improvements in the state; Website; Suggest a facilitator? Focus on big picture, what the board will focus on and how do to accomplish it.

Sandy to distribute rough outline to Board members in advance.

4.2 Other

Sandy distributed excerpts of 2019 Dangerous by Design published earlier this week.

Neil suggested everyone review the Bike Friendly State Report Card, Dangerous by Design Report, and the Watch For Me CT summary and their findings and recommendations prior to the retreat.

Sandy called attention to the recently published MassDOT Municipal Resource Guide for Walkability and suggested that be reviewed prior to the retreat.

Neil called attention to “Moving Towards Sustainable Transportation: 12th Annual Global Environmental Sustainability Symposium” at CCSU. He reviewed a call for presentations and inquired if the Board would like to submit.

Rod reviewed improvements in Bolton Notch.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM

Next Meeting – February 22, 2019, **9 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

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