



The Wellfleet Bike & Walkways Committee Virtual Meeting – Zoom

Friday, June 11, 2021 at 10 am

Meeting Minutes

1. *Call to Order*: Pete calls the meeting to order at 10:02.
2. *Administrative matters*
 - a. *Meeting rules to invite public comment*: The committee invites public comment and input at the end of each agenda item with a one-minute limit for each speaker. We welcome more feedback through email, bikeandwalkways@wellfleet-ma.gov, as well as proposals to the committee that can become future agenda items.
 - b. *Review committee's official charge*: Christie reads the official Bike and Walkways Committee Charge that is posted on the website and below (see *Attachment 1*).
 - c. *Near-term committee meeting calendar*: The committee will continue to meet biweekly and will set our next meeting tentatively for 6:30 pm on Wednesday, June 23.
3. *Approve minutes from committee meeting on June 2, 2021*: Christie moves that we approve the meeting minutes from June 2, 2021, Pete seconds, and all vote in favor.
4. *Bikeway analysis status*: Pete spoke with Police Chief Hurley regarding traffic safety issues and safety hot spots and incorporated the information into the bike segment review. Rebecca and Pete also spoke with the acting head of the DPW, Jay, to receive his inputs and he did not see any potential issues or conflicts with future projects. Terri and Pete met with the National Seashore yesterday to note any of their concerns about the environmental sensitivity of any potential segments. We are invested in supporting their conservation efforts and they put forth thoughtful effort into the meeting and invited several scientists and the Cape Cod Commission. Overall, the National Seashore opposes development of a bikeway within the boundaries of the Seashore. They have also offered to provide written input. We will incorporate it into our report. It also provides helpful context for future work and we can even explore Federal Land Access programs that facilitate town and state organizations collaboration to successfully work together to support conservation efforts and encourage biking. We are working on schedule and our report is underway.
5. *Other bike and walkway issues in Wellfleet*: Independently, the Selectboard has had an opportunity to hold a round table with the external agencies working together on the bike path. (As agreed upon at our last meeting, Ned and Pete will represent the committee at the round table and will maintain a voice at the table.) We've identified segments that connect in promising ways outside of the highway areas, and we are very aware of the public feedback and professional recommendations that emphasize the less-than-optimal standards of a shared use pathway on Route 6. We are building on the 2017 Outer Cape Master Plan, which recommended that further study be done in Wellfleet. In addition, the 2010 study performed by the National Seashore in unison with the DCR includes promising discussion about how bikeways can improve access to the National Seashore and the role the parks service can play. Christie inquired about the mission for the Roundtable discussion and screenshared an email communication from Paul Jahneg, DCR project manager for the Rail Trail extension, in response to the Selectboard's invitation to the Roundtable meeting expressing his hopes for the roundtable discussion (see *Attachment 2*). Pete shares a video created by a group of citizens,

“Mass DOT planned expansion of Main Street Corridor,” which illustrates the Mass DOT plans for Main Street, starting at the Route 6 intersection and ending in front of the Wicked Oyster and includes two 11-foot lanes, two 5.5-foot shoulders with bike sharrows, and one 5.5-foot wide sidewalk. Pete asks if it would be a productive piece to share at the roundtable, and all agree that, if appropriate, it is a helpful visual. He also shows “Comparison of Proposed MassDOT Bikeway and Alternative Route.” The video does a good job of illustrating contrast in the potential pathways, however, the video was not created by the committee and our intention is not to establish a specific alternative route at this moment. We are studying alternatives so that we can provide a recommendation to the Selectboard. All agree that the beginning is particularly useful, and Pete points out that one of the first guidelines that MassDOT lays out for themselves is the need public acceptance and involvement in infrastructure plans. The videos illustrate that the public is concerned. A community member pointed out that the facilitation of communication between community members and the state would be a key improvement. For instance, the South Wellfleet Post Office was unaware of the construction on the parking lot behind them. Accountability and trust is also important. For instance the state’s messaging about their plans for the Amsler property has been out of sync with the visual reality. We have sent two emails to the Selectboard requesting clarification about the development of the terminus at Route 6.

6. *Other business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting:* Pete moves that we follow up with another email recommending that someone in town hall should be designated as a representative to act as a liaison between the town and the state agencies, Rebecca seconds, and all vote in favor.
7. Adjournment: Pete makes a motion that we adjourn the meeting at 11:01, Ned seconds, and all vote in favor.

Attachment 1: Bike and Walkways Committee Charge

Attachment 2: Email communication from Paul Jahneg, DCR project manager for the Rail Trail extension, in response to the Selectboard’s invitation to the Roundtable meeting

Bike and Walkways Committee, bikeandwalkways@wellfleet-ma.gov

CHARGE

The Bike and Walkways Committee is hereby established to consider ways to provide safe areas for biking and walking. The Board of Selectmen believes that these activities should be available seasonally and year-round as they are an important means of local transportation, are popular activities in the town, and promote good health.

The Bike and Walkway Committee is charged with the following tasks:

1. To work with the Cape Cod National Seashore, the Towns of Provincetown and Truro and the Cape Cod Commission to establish the continuation of the bike trail northward into Provincetown.
2. To prepare a plan for future bike and walking routes throughout the town of Wellfleet.

Attachment 2: Email communication from Paul Jahnig, DCR project manager for the Rail Trail extension, in response to the Selectboard's invitation to the Roundtable meeting

Dear All;

Hope you are well.

We are looking forward attending Monday's roundtable.

As a part of that, I will be able to provide a brief update on DCR's on-going CCRT Phase 1 construction project. I will highlight that the work at Route 6, includes building demolition, site stabilization, site grading and some re-planting, but NOT construction of any other parking, trail, trailhead or facility.

I do hope that the discussion at the roundtable on Monday can stay focused looking forward, i.e., what are different stakeholders' plans, etc. for how to improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities northward, and in the future.

I do hope that we can all help steer discussion away from things that might have to do with past history and/or our on-going phase 1 construction project, which, we recognize, has caused disruption to some.

We appreciate the opportunity for sharing and dialogue.

Sincerely,

Paul

Paul Jahnig, State Park Trails Planner

Trails and Greenways Section

Department of Conservation and Recreation

paul.jahnig@mass.gov