

Town of Hudson AD-HOC BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE

78 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749

Meeting Minutes November 30, 2022

Pursuant to the Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, this meeting of the Hudson Ad-hoc Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee was conducted via remote participation.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Tom Green.

The following voting members were in attendance: Tom Green, Frank Noyes, Richard Braga, Josh Stone, and Brian Smith.

The following ex-officio members were in attendance: Kali Coughlan, Pam Helenik and Steven Santos.

1. Approval of minutes:

Mr. Braga made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Noyes. The vote in favor was unanimous.

2. Mass Central Rail Trail update

Mr. Green met with Tom Gregory, the Town Executive Assistant and Pam Helinek and Kristina Johnson from the Planning Department to discuss development of the "downtown" section (from Priest Street to the Hudson/Bolton/Berlin town line) of the Mass Central Rail Trail, and what the process would be

3. Discussion of Presentation to Select Board

There was a discussion of resident's email that was forwarded to the Bike and Ped Committee regarding the break in the sidewalk on Marlboro Street near Reed Road.

Mr. Smith reviewed the most mentioned streets where residents asked for sidewalks on the Community Survey. In order they are River Street/River Road past Chapin Road (some of that section is in the Town of Berlin), East Main Street, Woodrow Street, Marlboro Street, Forest Avenue, Cox Street, Brigham Street and Hosmer Street.

Hudson will be applying for a major Safe Routes to School grant for work on Chapin Road.

Mr. Green mentioned that in his discussion with Eric Ryder he was very open to the idea of having a review of all of the town sidewalks with prioritization similar to the pavement report that was done for all town streets several years ago.

There was a discussion about what could be codified with regard to discussions with developers about connectivity from their new units to existing non-motorized trails or bike paths.

There was a discussion about determining the optimal connections to the Assabet River Rail Trail and the eventual Mass Central Rail Trail from neighborhoods and businesses. We should look including this (and possibly working with MAPC or other firms to help with this) in the Select Board presentation.

Ms. Coughlan will send out a list of local communities that have Bicycle and Pedestrian Committees and links to their mission statements.

There was discussion about what the relationship should be for a follow-on committee with other town boards and departments. There was general agreement that the committee should serve in both an advisory/review capacity and in an advocacy capacity with regard to cycling and pedestrian issues.

4. Adjournment:

Mr. Braga made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith. The vote in favor was unanimous, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:12 pm.

5. Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 14th 4:00pm via Zoom.