



MEETING REPORT /November 18, 2014

Director Reporting

Jeffrey J. LaValley, Chair, Board of Directors

Date of Report

11.18.2014

Correspondence

Upon a roll-call by the Clerk, it was determined no quorum was present.

Brief Summary of

- Meetings Attended
- Items/Projects Completed or Initiated
- Actions Taken

Board Members Present

- Jeffrey LaValley, Chair
- George Hart, Clerk
- Don Podolski, Co-Director, Education & Research
- Bob Pac, Director of Maintenance
- Diane Genereux, Co-Director of Planning & Development
- Jay Queenin, At-Large
- Mark Cressotti, P.E., City Engineer

Due to the absence of a quorum, no official business was conducted; however, the following topics were discussed:

City Engineer's Report

MADOT had several "takeaways" from the Nov 13th Public Hearing, including:

- Suggested the option of not replacing the Main Street bridge is a local matter which merits further consideration by the community
- Suggested consideration be given to construction of a trail wider than 10 feet to reduce the potential for bicyclist/pedestrians incursions (and that a study of accidents involving bicycles vs. pedestrians be undertaken)

Regarding the construction of CGRT Central, Part I*

- Further study of the driveway at the end of Hedges Avenue in proximity to the proposed underpass is required
- The agenda for the next meeting of the Conservation Commission [Tuesday 11/25] includes a discussion relative to the proposed levee construction/CGRT North



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Regarding increased safety at Shaker Road

- City is going to install an access ramp/extension of trail, connecting the CGRT to Country Club Drive
- City is working on cost estimates

Court St Striping

- Mark wants continued feedback
- Any changes would be in Spring 2015

Western Avenue

- Mark Current/25% plans (submitted to MADOT) are available online at www.cityofwestfield.org
 - Active Projects
 - Western Avenue
- Should be reviewed by Don, MJ, et. al.

Mark Fenton Proposed Event

Jeff shared brief details for the proposed April/Mark Fenton event, and upon an inquiry as to whether any City funds may be available, the City Engineer offered Diana McLean as a potential resource for leads relative to funding requests through the City

Massachusetts Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee Meeting

11/19; 1pm to 3 pm

PVPC Office on Congress St, Spfld, MA

Mural Update

Don anticipates (based on conversations with Monica from the Sign Shop) the mural will be installed within one week; consideration may be given to a possible dedication in tandem with Westfield on Weekends' Lantern Light Parade – which steps off from the parking lot adjacent to New Horizons Bikes (on Franklin Street) on Saturday, November 29th @ 6pm (marchers gather between 4.45 and 5pm). Consider having at 4pm (with coco and hot cider doughnuts)? Or, earlier in the afternoon?



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Bike Racks

- Bike rack at East Silver St Big Y has been moved to a more prominent location
- Diane & Don suggest FOCGRT donate (at an approximate cost of \$100/ "U-shaped racks) to the City to give to downtown merchants/businesses
- Select businesses we know already are bike-friendly, or which would be conducive to promoting our local economy
 - Two Rivers Burritos
 - Leo's
 - Tobacco Barn/Mina's Wine & Spirits
 - Stop & Shop
 - Rocky's/Ace Hardware
- Other potential installations
 - WSU / Landsdowne Place
 - New Senior Center

From Director of Maintenance

Bob Pac attended a meeting Friday, 11/14 of the Farmington Valley Trails Council, where he learned more information, which may be useful to share regarding numbers pertinent to those who question the economic benefits of rail trails; Bob will share with Jeff for dissemination

Bike Friendly Community

From Co-Director of Education & Research

Simsbury, CT was recently designed a silver level "Bike Friendly Community"; Don has suggested to local officials (Joe Mitchell, PJ Miller, Mayor Knapik, et. al.) that Westfield should apply for a designation as a Bike Friendly Community – resistance seems to come from the fact that the application (which is quite lengthy) must be submitted by one person (ideally the Mayor's office), but would require input from several City offices/departments, including: Engineering, Schools, WPD, Health Department, etc. *Note: following the meeting Jeff researched this further and the application is extensive and would be quite the undertaking; perhaps an initial first-step would be to procure a WSU student as an intern to perhaps conduct an audit of many of the topics covered within the application/questionnaire, which might be useful to a future application. The next deadline for submitting applications is **February 11, 2015***

<http://bikeleague.org/community>



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Accomplishments Toward Board Goals & Objectives

For Board Approval

Jeff will be sending under separate cover biographical information for each of the 3 new board member applicants. Please review and be prepared to vote at the December meeting.

Recommended Action

Report Authored By

Jeffrey J. LaValley