



BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE

Minutes

May 20, 2019, 6:30pm – 7:45pm at Town Office

Introduction by present members and of non-present members:

Present: Christopher Hall (Town Administrator), Todd Richards (resident cyclist), Robert Faunce (creator of 2009 plan), Mary Piasecki & John Lappen (resident cyclists/pedestrian), Chuck Farrell (former PWA board, current Pemaquid Mill Committee), Lindsay Currier (Deputy Treasurer & resident cyclist/hiker/xc skier), Sandra Lucore (resident pedestrian)

Apologies: Patricia Porter (resident pedestrian), James Albright (resident walker), Mike Foster (Route 66 Snowmobile Club), Chrissy Bradley (Stonewall Stables, equestrian)

A background of Bristol's Bicycle Pedestrian Committee was given by Town Administrator Christopher Hall. The past committee successfully produced a plan with Bob Faunce, with the hope that Maine's Department of Transportation (DOT) funding would support development of bicycle and pedestrian access and safety in the Bristol area. With the change of administration at the State level in 2010, funding became unavailable and the plan was shelved. With last years new change in administration the potential for funding is again available.

Maine DOT features Bristol roads in "Tour 32", a spur of the Complementary Coastal portion of Maine's section of the East Coast Greenway. Member Patricia Porter, who was unable to attend the meeting, sent an email explaining that the Pemaquid Point Association had also previously worked with DOT to install pedestrian signs and lower speed limit signs in the Pemaquid Point Area. Todd Richards acquired Share the Road signs in various other areas of the peninsula.

There is a possibility of Amtrak's Downeaster being extended beyond Brunswick to Rockland, with a stop in Newcastle. Downeaster passengers have the ability to

bring bicycles. This would make our area more accessible to tourists wishing to see the peninsula by bike or foot.

A discussion of categories of user types identified our area to receive non-motorized traffic from thru or long-distance travelers, non-residents traveling to the area to access routes and trails, and residents utilizing routes and trails for recreation, fitness and/or commuting purposes.

The group agreed that the newly acquired Pemaquid Mill would make an excellent trailhead and that the linking of Land Trusts, local businesses and other points of interest is a priority. Although Mike Foster of the Route 66 Snowmobile Club was unable to attend, the group discussed the current web of off-road trails throughout the peninsula that the club has worked hard to gain permission for, maintain, sign, and groom in winter. It was mentioned that various other snowmobile clubs in the region work with other user types to provide access for hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, winter fat biking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing.

The 2009 Bicycle Pedestrian Plan and Survey was presented by its author Bob Faunce. The plan and survey are available on the Town Website for public review.

A discussion of the need for crosswalks in the village areas brought awareness of DOT requirements to install crosswalks. Both sides of the road must have a sidewalk or pathway and Pedestrian Generator, for example a school or bus stop. The group agrees that crosswalks in the villages would increase safety.

The reopening of old Right of Ways was discussed. An example would be Old Long Cove Rd, with the possibility of dividing through traffic on Route 32 from cyclists and pedestrians, to increase safety and enjoyment.

Bob also mentioned that Bristol's Median Age has increased over the years, with the majority of Bristol's population being of retirement age. This means that the trails within the villages should be ADA compliant and able to accommodate wheelchairs, strollers, etc (8ft wide, 1:12% maximum grade)

It was agreed that the Committee's short-term plan of work should be to reach a consensus on priorities for what to include on town budget for the 2020 Town Meeting. A monthly meeting and creation of an aggregated map showing current and proposed use, and surface conditions will assist in this goal. An overarching long-term vision should also be agreed upon.

There is a need to co-opt additional members, to represent other constituencies, equestrian and adaptive users. A Chair and Vice Chair need to be elected and Sub-

Committees formed to tackle individual projects such as researching Right of Ways and agreements of use from landowners.

The next Meeting will take place 6:30pm June 17, 2019 at the Town Office

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Lindsay Currier

Key Contact, Bicycle Pedestrian Committee

05/22/2019