

## South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways Agenda

Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

### SW Parks & Recreation Department

**Attendees:** Ginny Hole, Bob Dickinson, Kim Nowell, Skip Bourke, Steve Wagner, Ken Sek, Christine Kiely, Roy Normen, and Molly Keays

**Absent:** George Caye, Jeff Harner and John Caldwell

**Call Meeting to order:** 7:05 pm

**Public Participation:** None

**October and November Minutes** – Approved

#### **New Business:**

- SW High School students reached out to SWW&WW with questions on how to organize a bicycling club.
  - 15 students have signed the club proposal form expressing their interest in the cycling club.
  - Group was denied through high school administration (too dangerous and not leaving from school grounds). They have reached out to other Connecticut high schools pending responses.
  - Ginny and Christine will try to meet with the students and advisor to determine if a solution can be found.

#### **Old Business:**

- By-Laws were approved subject to approval by the Parks & Recreation Commission. Our by-laws will be added to the PARC December agenda.
- Crosstown Trail– Kevin Grindle from Barton & Loguidice met with Jeff Folger, the town's Senior Environmental Planner. Molly will meet with Jeff to discuss status.
- 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SWW&WW / highlights
  - Thank you and gratitude for all volunteers past and present who were/are dedicated to the purpose and goals of this association. In the last 15 years this group has made significant contributions to the Town of South Windsor.
    - The 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Bike Education Program – began in South Windsor and has branched out to other Connecticut towns
    - Increase in the number of sidewalks
    - Increase in walkable connectors joining previously separated sections
    - SWW&WW Master Plan
    - Bike Friendly Community Award
    - Greenway Designation
    - Adopt-a-Road

- Train the Trainer
  - Collaboration with Park & Recreation Department events
- Crosstown Trail Grant Application Meeting –
  - A draft endorsement letter was sent to Molly for review
  - Jeff created a database of several hundred businesses in SW that we could focus on to select groups for solicitation. This will also include contacts with Parks and Rec department.
  - The endorsement letter and the database should be ready for our January meeting.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Bike Safety Program wrap-up
  - The Fall 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Bike Safety Program was successfully completed at Philip R Smith and Orchard Hill schools. The Orchard Hill classes went several days longer than scheduled due to school requirements and weather conditions. This required several changes in scheduling by our volunteers. **Thank you, volunteers for being flexible with your schedules.**
  - In the end the students, teachers and volunteers all considered the classes a huge success and the students gained valuable information on safe biking techniques and procedures.
  - The next program is scheduled for April, May and June of 2023 at Pleasant Valley and Eli Terry schools. See 2023 calendar of events for tentative dates.
- Moonlight Hike Nevers Park – Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>
  - The weather was perfect and there was a great turnout over 60 people participated. The new benches around the fire pit were greatly appreciated. Thank you: Kim, Ginny, Ken, Skip (& Cindy) for leading the hike.
- SWW&WW calendar events –
  - Events for Parks & Recreations magazine must be submitted:
    - Spring & Summer no later than Wednesday, January 11, 2023
    - Fall & Winter no later than Wednesday, July 12, 2023
  - Potential events for 2023, Adopt-a Road (Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>); Thursday evening bike rides June 15<sup>th</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Will finalize Spring & Summer events in our January meeting

#### Other Business:

##### Upcoming Events:

- **Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>** – Moonlight Hike Nevers Park
  - Kim, Skip, Ginny, and Ken will be leading the 1.5-mile Moonlight Hike through Nevers Park. Meet at 6:45pm at Rotary Pavilion, 55 Chief Ryan Way. The fire pit will be lit from 6:30 to 7:00, and the hike begins at 7:00pm. If there is snow bring snowshoes or cross-country skis.

**Announcements:**

- Volunteers are needed for the Wood Memorial Gingerbread House. Ken helped on 12/4 selling raffle tickets. You need to reserve date and time individually, if you are interested in helping click on the click below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080c45a8aa23a5f58-gingerbread2>

**Miscellaneous:**

- **East Coast Greenway – Impact Series**
  - Join field team members Daniel Paschall and Bruce Donald as they highlight their impactful work throughout 2022 and look ahead to what's next! Join our team live at [greenway.org/impactseries](https://greenway.org/impactseries)
- **Watch For Me December newsletter- highlights**
  - By the end of November, there were 59 pedestrian fatalities in our state, just 2 away from the record set in 2020. A staggering 11 pedestrians were killed in the month of November alone.
  - The annual [World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims](#) was held on November 20. Click [here](#) to see a recap of events.
    - Next year, we'd like to have something here in Connecticut to honor World Day of Remembrance. If you would like to join a planning committee or just have ideas on what we can do, please email [awatkins01@connecticutchildrens.org](mailto:awatkins01@connecticutchildrens.org).
  - **GRANT ALERT! 2023 Road to Zero Community Traffic Safety Grants.** Grant proposals are due January 6, 2023. The requested amounts must be between \$50,000 and \$200,000. Ken volunteered to will review the application and make a recommendation.
  - [The Accessible Public Spaces for All](#) toolkit are designed to support you and your team in understanding the elements of inclusive public spaces to better equip you to champion effective inclusion strategies in your project.
- **Bike Walk Connecticut – December highlights**
  - The CT General Assembly session starts in January and we're meeting with legislators to ensure that pedestrian and cycling interests are represented.
    - One good way think about priorities is to watch [The Street Project](#), an inspiring story about the global, citizen-led fight to make our streets safer by Connecticut filmmaker Jennifer Boyd.

**Adjournment: 9:00 pm**

**Next Meeting:**

- **Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 7:00 pm** - SW Parks & Recreation Building, 91 Ayers Rd