South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 3, 2023 SW Parks & Recreation Department



Attendees: Ginny Hole, Christine Kiely, Bob Dickinson, Skip Bourke, Ken Sek, Roy Normen, Jeff Harner, Steve Wagner, Molly Keays, John Caldwell and Eric Prause

Call Meeting to order: 7:02 pm

Public Participation – Eric Prause, Chair of Planning, Zoning and Land Acquisition Commission for the Town of Manchester attended to find out about SWW&WW advocacy group. We expect to have close interaction in the next several years to trail extensions with the South Windsor Crosstown Trail and the Manchester East Coast Greenway.

April Minutes - Approved

New Business: May is National Bike Month - get out and ride!

Old Business:

South Windsor Crosstown Trail

- CT DEEP recreational grant, unfortunately the SW was not awarded funds. We had a strong application but there were \$29 million in requested funds but DEEP had \$9 million to award.
 - Community Connectivity Grant Program (CCGP) CT Department of Transportation [DOT] has funds available the application is due on Friday, July 21st. Future meetings will be scheduled to work on this application.
 - Ginny sent an email to Senator Anwar 's aide for an update on Senate bonding application.
 - Ginny submitted a grant application to the SW Greater Together Community Fund.
- Molly will contact Kevin Grindle from Barton & Loguidice to check on the status for the wetland application.
- Molly will check with our town attorney to see if a Go Fund Me account could be created for the SW Crosstown trail.

4th Grade Bike Safety Program / Bike Fleet

- Pleasant Valley School was a success with 5 classes. Volunteers included: Ken, Ginny, Jeff, Steve, Bob, Christine along with help from eleven other volunteers.
- Eli Terry School 4 classes Tuesday, May 30th, Thursday, June 1st, Friday, June 2nd, Monday, June 5th and Tuesday, June 6th (rain date). Email Ken if you are available to volunteer
- Ginny submitted a grant application to the South Windsor Moms Grant to purchase an adult bike for our *Learn to Ride Program*.

Earth Day Celebration –

Was celebrated on Saturday, April 22nd with the cleanup of Chapel Road. The weather was breezy making filling the trash bags a challenge. Thanks to Skip, Roy, Ginny, Steve and Ken for helping with the cleanup with the assistance of five town volunteers.

SW Teen Cycle Club

- On Friday, April 14th the cycle club met and Jeff and Ginny provided a bike maintenance and bike safety workshop.
- First ride is Saturday, May 20th (East Coast Trail). Ginny, Skip, Kim, Christine, Jeff, Steve, Kim, and Dave.
 - Meet at 9:45 am at One Church at 855 Chapel Road, roll at 10:00 am. The 10-mile ride will go to Charter Oak Park in Manchester and return, the 20-mile ride will go to Fish Family Farm in Manchester and return.
 - So far we only have 3 volunteers for a possible rain date of May 21st.
 Email Ginny if you are able to volunteer on Sunday.
- Additional Rides: Saturday, June 17th (new date), Saturday, July 15th and Saturday, August 19th. Send Ginny an email if you are available to volunteer.
- The Teen cycle club received a grant from the SW Youth & Family Services congratulations!
- Bobcat Prowl Link to Success had an article about Aditya Ja and the Teen Cycle Club
- Molly will be contacting SW chief of police regarding bicycles in storage.

Bike Rack Inventory

- John Caldwell will email a list of all the bike racks locations in town this week to Ginny.
 - Once that list is provided we will check that the list is accurate by visiting each
 of the bike rack location. If you are interested in assisting email Ginny.

Budget / Bike Replacement Plan

- Briefly discussed the Bike Replacement Plan the replacement will begin with the 7/1/2024 6/30/2025 fiscal year.
- Ginny is in contact with a local bike shop on the cost for replacement bikes.
- Jeff will update the draft of the bike replacement plan.
- Ginny presented our new SWW&WW shirts at tonight's meeting.

Crosswalk Ellington Rd / Chapel Rd

- Skip received a reply from the S. Windsor Police Department concerning a request to have crosswalks at the intersection of Ellington Road and Chapel Road.
 - Since this is a state road the CT DOT would handle this project. The police department has been in contact with DOT and was informed that their project will be replacing the traffic control signal equipment at this intersection and will provide pedestrian facilities to meet current standards.
 - The design is currently scheduled to be completed in June 2024, with physical construction beginning in spring 2025 and ending in 2026.

Other Business:

Upcoming Events:

- Thursday, May 4th Jeff, Ginny and Christine will be holding a workshop for Boy Scout Troop 880 about bicycle maintenance and safety. The class will be held at Wapping Church from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm.
- Tuesday, May 9th Ginny and Ken will hold an Adult Learn-To-Ride Class at Wapping School meet at 3:00 pm.
- Wednesdays, May 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st: Adult Bike Rides Ginny, Ken, and Christine will be leading these rides. Meet at Nevers Park parking lot at the corner of Nevers Rd and Sand Hill Rd, at 9:45 am.
- Friday, May 19th Bike to Work Day. Skip will lead this ride into Hartford. Meet at One Church on 855 Church Street at 6:45 am, biking starts at 7:00 am.
- Spring 4th Grade Bike Program Eli Terry School
 - o Tuesday, May 30th, Thursday, June 1st, Friday, June 2nd, Monday, June 5th and Tuesday, June 6th (rain date).
- Friday, June 2nd Sunset Walk in Nevers Park. Kim, Skip and Ken will be leading the 1.5-mile Sunset Walk through Nevers Park. Meet at 7:45 pm at the Rotary Pavilion, 55 Chief Ryan Way. The hike begins at 8:00 pm.
- Thursday Adult Brewery Bike Rides Skip will be leading casual bike rides each Thursday evening during the Summer starting June 15th through August 31st. Meet at Connecticut Valley Brewery (CVB) at 5:45 pm, ride begins at 6:00 pm.
- Saturday, September 30th Heritage Day, more to come!

Announcements:

- Steve Wagner was recognized on Tuesday, May 2nd with the Eugene Policelli Service Award for his years of commitment to the Town of South Windsor. Congratulations Steve – well deserved for years of dedicated service!
- Christine was presented with a plaque as emeritus member of the SWW&WW.
- Park & Recreation Facility has moved to their new location at 380 Foster St.
- Plan of Conservation and Development is seeking recommendations they will be sending a questionnaire to SWW&WW – one suggestion is to review the SW sidewalk plan, more to come

Miscellaneous:

 The senior center is looking for a trip captain for a half-day bike ride around Mystic. The tentative date is Thursday, August 31st. If you are interested in leading this ride please contact Barbara Konicki, Program Coordinator at 860-648-6398.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 7th, 2023; at 7:00 pm. NEW location Park & Recreation Building at 380 Foster Street