

South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

SW Parks & Recreation Department

Attendees: Ginny Hole, Christine Kiely, Bob Dickinson, Skip Bourke, Ken Sek, Roy Normen, and new members Gavin Boudle and Aditya Jha

Call Meeting to order: 7:05 pm

Public Participation: N/A

March Minutes – Approved

New Business:

- **South Windsor Greater Together Community Fund** notified SWW&WW that they will be distributing grant money to organizations that provide benefit to our community. **April 30th** is the due to complete the grant.
 - The grant funds have been made possible by the **Hartford Foundation of Public Giving**. A full description of the program can be found at <https://www.hfpg.org/donors/ways-to-give/community-funds/south-windsor>.
- **South Windsor Mom's Club** – is a local group dedicated to fostering support and friendship for moms and their families. This club has been providing grants to local organizations, the due date for their grant application is **May 1st**.
 - **A grant sub-committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12th at 7:00pm at Parks & Rec to review both grant applications.**
- **Deming Community Garden** - is celebrating Earth Day on **Saturday, April 15th**. SWW&WW has been invited to attend and distribute information about our group. The event is from 10 am - 1:00 pm. Loading starts at 8:30am and vendors need to be set-up by 9:30am. If you are available contact Christine, we are looking for a few more volunteers.

Old Business:

- **South Windsor Crosstown Trail** – Davison Environmental is scheduled to flag the wetlands in the next 1-2 weeks. Once this flagging is complete, Barton & Loguidice will field locate these flags and add them to the plan. It is anticipated that the application will be submitted to the Inland & Wetland Conservation at the end of April. Stay tuned!
- **4th Grade Bike Fleet Tune-up** - Jeff, Ginny, Christine, Steve, Ken and Kim worked to get all the bikes in our fleet ready for the upcoming 4th grade program that begins this month. **Kudos** to Jeff for leading the pack.
- **4th Grade Bike Safety Program – WOW 3,267 grade school students have attended our program – THANK YOU to all past and present volunteers!**
 - **Fall Bike Dates** – Philip R Smith / Orchard Hill
 - Phillip R Smith School - (3 classes) September 18th, 19th, and 21st (Rain date 22nd)
 - Orchard Hill School (5 classes) October 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 10th (Rain Date 12th)

- **Senior Center Events:**
 - **Bike Maintenance** – A workshop on Bike Maintenance was held on March 28th. Jeff went through steps needed to maintain a bicycle. Seniors brought in their bikes volunteers helped with their issues Steve, Christine and Ken assisted.
 - **Bike Safety** – A workshop for Bike Safety was held on April 4th. Ginny, Christine, and Ken instructed the attendees. The Smart Cycling Quick Guide from The League of American Bicyclists was used.
- **South Windsor Teen Cycle Club:** Bike Safety / Bike Maintenance is scheduled for **Friday, April 14th from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at Wapping School**
 - There are a few students who are interested in the cycling club, but do not have a bicycle, Jeff is currently working with these students.
 - Ride date **Saturday, May 20th; 10:00 am – 2:00 pm** meet at One Church 855 Chapel Rd. Riding the Charter Oak Greenway. Ginny, Steve, Skip, Kim and Christine will be riding.
 - Additional tentative dates for rides:
 - **Saturdays June 24th, July 15th and August 19th 10:00am – 2:00pm**
 - Would like three volunteers (or more) for each date – let Ginny or Christine know if you are available to volunteer to lead and sweep
- **Bike Rack Inventory** – A request has been sent to John Caldwell to provide a list of all the bike racks in town. Once that list is provided we will verify that the list is accurate. More to come.
- **Budget**
 - Jeff prepared a Bike Replacement Plan to allow the older bikes in our fleet to be replaced over a six-year period. Also included was a spreadsheet of yearly costs for Bike Program Supplies
 - Ginny is pending the cost of new SWW&WW t-shirts
 - More discussion is needed with Molly

Other Business:

Upcoming Events:

- **Friday, April 7th** – Moonlight Walk in Nevers Park. Kim, Skip and Ken will be leading the 1.5-mile Moonlight Walk through Nevers Park. Meet at 7:15pm at the Rotary Pavilion, 55 Chief Ryan Way. The hike begins at 7:30pm.
- **Saturday, April 15th** – Ginny and Ken will hold an Adult Learn-To-Ride workshop at Wapping School from 9:00am to 1:00pm.
- **Spring 4th Grade Bike Safety Program** – contact Ken if you are able to help
 - **Pleasant Valley School**
 - Monday, April 17th, Tuesday, April 18th, Thursday, April 20th, Friday, April 21st, Monday, April 24th and Tuesday, April 25th (rain date).
 - **Eli Terry School**
 - Tuesday, May 30th, Thursday, June 1st, Friday, June 2nd, Monday, June 5th and Tuesday, June 6th (rain date).
- Earth Day celebration – **Adopt-a-Road Saturday, April 22nd** [rain date Sunday, April 23rd] – We will meet at the CREC Magnet School at 625 Chapel Road at 1:00 pm. Let Ken know if you are able to assist.

- **Morning Adult Bike Rides** – Ginny, Ken, and Christine will be leading four adult bike rides in May. The rides are on May 10th, May 17th and May 24th, and May 31st. Meet at Nevers Park parking lot at the corner of Nevers Rd and Sand Hill Rd, at 9:45 am.

Announcements:

- **Bike Walk Connecticut – March newsletter:**
 - **Senate Bill [SB 980]** Governor Lamont's budget includes \$10 million (\$5 million/year) for Recreational Trails & Greenways program grants. Contact your legislators in support of this senate bill.
 - **Women Don't Cycle film on April 15** - BiCi Co West will host the first public screening in the US of this new documentary film by Manon Brunard, who explores what it means to be a woman cycling in different countries around the world.
 - **Ride of Silence May 17th:** Join in a worldwide silent procession to honor cyclists who have been killed or injured while cycling on public roadways. The ride begins at 7:00pm at the Mansfield Community Center, 10 South Eagleville Road.
 - **Bike to Work Day May 19th** - CT's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Commissioner, Katie Dykes, will be speaking at the event. Light refreshments will be available at Old State House. 7:00AM am to 9:00 am at Old State House in Hartford
 - **Ride the East June 3:** The Trust for Public Land (TPL) and East Coast Greenway (ECG) Alliance are hosting Ride the East to celebrate TPL's 50th anniversary and Connecticut's linear parks. Volunteers are needed to lead and sweep.
 - **Trail of the Month: Cove Park Trail** - located in historic Old Wethersfield, the Cove Park Trail might not be the longest but it packs a lot of scenic views in a one-mile trail! The surface is crushed gravel and passes by many colonial era homes. It is also a short walk back to the shops and restaurants in the downtown area of Old Wethersfield
 - **Bus Fares resume on April 1st.** - Bus fares have been suspended since April 2022.

Miscellaneous:

- **South Windsor Historical Society – Heritage Day** is back! The celebration is scheduled for **Saturday, September 30th** from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm in the East Windsor Hill portion of Main Street. SWW&WW is invited to host a table. More to come.
- **Ellington and Chapel Crosswalks** - Ellington Rd was repaved a few years ago, there are pedestrian buttons to control the traffic signals but the paint for the crosswalks was not replaced. Skip will circle back with town officials to obtain the status.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:03 pm

Next Meeting:

- **Wednesday, May 3rd at 7:00 pm** - SW Parks & Recreation Building, 91 Ayers Rd