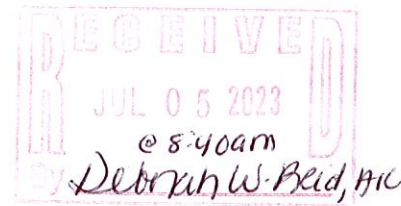


South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 7, 2023
SW Parks & Recreation Department



Attendees: Ginny Hole, Bob Dickinson, Skip Bourke, Ken Sek, Jeff Harner, Steve Wagner, Kim Nowell, Gavin Boudle and Molly Keays

Call Meeting to order: 7:08 pm

Public Participation – None

May Minutes – Approved.

New Business:

- Articles for Fall & Winter Parks & Recreation Magazine were finalized.
 - The description of SWW&WW was improved.
 - September 9th was chosen as the date for the Adult Fall Bike Ride.
 - Full Moon Walks were scheduled for November 25, 2023, January 26, 2024, and February 24, 2024. Registration begins at 6:45PM. Walk starts at 7PM. All references to firepit usage were removed as availability of the firepit is uncertain.

Old Business:

- **South Windsor Crosstown Trail** – No updates from Kevin Grindle on the Crosstown Trail. Molly will send an email to Kevin to follow up on Ginny's May 23rd email regarding wetlands permit, continuing the design, and boardwalk costs.
- **Department of Transportation (DOT) Community Connectivity Grant** - Molly is currently working on the DOT Grant. Due date is July 21st. She has a request in to Kevin Grindle for an update on the project timeline to include with the grant.
- **SWW&WW Budget & Bike Replacement Plan** – Jeff will provide a 4 -Year Plan to replace all the bikes currently used in the 4th Grade Bike Education Program before the end of June. The Plan covers bikes, bike equipment and basic supplies.
- **Sidewalk/ Multiuse Trail Plan** – Ginny, Steve, Ken, and Bob met with Michele Lipe, the Town Planner, and Taylor Rodrigue, a Project Engineer, on May 18, 2023 to discuss the Sidewalk/ Multiuse Trail Plan. Michele asked Taylor to update the plan with the most current sidewalks. She would like our advice on placement & priority of future sidewalks and trails. Molly suggested we include Kevin Vincents, a Town Engineer, on the Sidewalk Plan meetings. He is currently working on a plan for sidewalks on Birch Hill Road.
- **SW Teen Cycling Club**
 - The SW Teen Cycling Club was awarded a \$200 grant from SW Youth & Family Services. They plan to purchase 3 vests, 2 first aid kits, a repair kit, and a hand tire pump. Jeff will donate water bottle holders to the club.
 - The SW Teen Cycling Club is scheduled to bike with SWW&WW members on June 21st, July 12th, and August 9th. Meeting time is 8:45 am and the ride begins

at 9:00am from Nevers Park parking area at the corner of Nevers Road and Sand Hill Road. Assisting on the rides will be Ginny, Skip, Ken, Jeff, and Steve. One of the latter two dates may be changed to riding another trail.

- **Bike Rack Inventory** – John Caldwell provided Ginny with a list of the bike racks in town. A check of the racks will be planned.
- **Calendar** – Skip updated the 2023 – 2024 calendar during the meeting to reflect the upcoming fall & winter events.
- **Bylaws** – Molly announced the SWW&WW Bylaws have been approved by the Town Lawyer and PARC. They will go into effect at the August 2, 2023 meeting.

Other Business:

Last Month's Events Recap:

- **Adult Wednesday Morning Bike Rides** – Ginny, Christine, Steve, Meredith, and Ken led the bike rides on May 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st. The rides started from Nevers Park and extended into Ellington and East Windsor. Each week we had more adults participate.
- **Bike To Work** – On Friday, May 19th Ginny, Skip, and Ken participated in the annual Bike to Work bike ride into Hartford by way of the Putnam Bridge in East Hartford. Many groups road in from surrounding towns. We will formalize the Bike to Work ride from South Windsor as an event in the future once the trail from Windsor to the Riverwalk in Hartford is completed.
- **Eli Terry 4th Grade Bike Program** – The second of the two Spring Bike Safety Classes was held at Eli Terry School. The classes went well. Coverage for the classes was good, with Ken, Ginny and Jeff assisting along with help from six other volunteers. The last half class on Friday was postponed to Monday due to high temperatures. It was felt the Day 1 preparation by the PE Teacher could have been better regarding course set up and having staff park their cars off the designated course.
- **Safe Routes to School** – Kristen Levesque, Transportation Engineer & Safe Routes to School Coordinator, her Supervisor, Craig Babowicz and their colleague, Anna Bergeron attended Day 1 at Eli Terry to observe and learn more about the 4th Grade Bicycle Safety Program. They gave out water bottles to all the students.
- **Sunset Walk** – On Friday, June 2nd a Sunset Walk was scheduled at Nevers Park, with Kim, Skip and Ken participating. The walk was cancelled due to rain. The Pavilion had been reserved by another group, which should be avoided in the future. As a solution, we identified two alternate meeting spots – the Community Center and at the restrooms on the corner of Nevers Road and Sand Hill Road.

Upcoming Events:

- **CT Valley Brewing Company Thursday Adult Bike Rides** – Skip will lead the adult bike rides each Thursday. Rides will run from June 15th through August 31st. Registration begins at 5:45 pm. Ride starts at 6:00 pm. Participants are requested to park in the back of the brewery. If you are interested in helping contact Skip. Kim pointed out that many of Thursday ride dates are on the

same night as the cruise nights at the brewery which can be a problem for parking. Ginny will reach out to the owner.

Announcements:

- **Bicycle Friendly Communities May 2023**
 - Simsbury was renewed as Silver, and Avon, Glastonbury and West Hartford were renewed as Bronze. Connecticut is ranked as 20th in the country as Bicycle Friendly State.
 - South Windsor's Bicycle Friendly Community status as Bronze expires in 2024. The application to reapply will be available September 2023, must be submitted by June 25, 2024 and status announced in December 2024. The League of American Bicyclists has updated their application process so that the information from the previous application can be rolled over into the new application.

Miscellaneous:

- **Deming Community Garden** – SWW&WW joined in the celebration of Earth Day at the Deming Street Community Garden on April 15th. Ken, Steve, Roy, and Christine participated. Information about the Crosstown Trail and the 4th grade Bicycle safety program were on display.
- **SWW&WW T-Shirts** – If you want a T-Shirt contact Ginny.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at 7:00 pm at SW Parks & Recreation Building new location - 350 Foster Street. Please note there is no meeting in July 2023.