

South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

SW Parks & Recreation Department

Attendees: Ginny Hole, Roy Normen, Bob Dickinson, Kim Nowell, Jeff Harner, Steve Wagner, Ken Sek and Molly Keays

Absent: Christine Kiely, Skip Bourke, Peter Mainelli, George Caye, and John Caldwell

- Call to order at 7:02 pm

Public Participation:

- Parks & Recreation's new home will be old Orchard Hill School as of April 2023.
- Molly expects she will have a full staff at Parks & Recreation by October. Leah is the Parks & Recreation secretary.
- Ken suggested the SW Community Band hold their practices at old Orchard Hill School once Parks & Recreation is settled in.

New Business:

- **Involvement Fair – CT Valley Brewing**
 - The fair, which would provide an opportunity for those visiting the brewery to meet SWW&WW members and learn about SWW&WW activities, was postponed by CT Valley Brewing from August 27th to September 24th.
 - The September fair will run from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Skip and Bob have offered to attend. Christine can assist and Jeff will check his schedule. Contact Ginny if you are also interested in attending.

Old Business:

- **Crosstown Trail**
 - Molly reported Kevin Grindle, the Barton & Loguidice (formerly Anchor) Architect leading this project, will attend SWW&WW October 5, 2022 meeting.
 - Molly spoke to Kimberly Bradley of DEEP regarding the grant SW received from Recreational Trails Program to fund the design of the Crosstown Trail and it has been extended an additional year due to Covid (November 2023). This extension does not stop us from acquiring more funding through DEEP.
 - Very little of the town's grant money has been spent since Kevin bills for his work once the project is completed. He has agreed to submit his expenses as work is completed to reflect progress made on the project.
 - Kevin is waiting for feedback from Eversource's Engineers. In the meantime, Denise Lord, Lead Engineer for Barton & Loguidice sent revised plans for the middle section of the SW Crosstown Trail in mid-August. The revisions were made based on discussions at the July 12, 2022 field meeting. The middle section of the trail runs from Wapping Park to Nevers Park. Kevin plans to meet with Jeff Folger to review the preliminary designs for wetland permitting of the middle section.
 - Kevin Grindle is drafting an easement letter for us to review. Then the letter will be forwarded to the Town attorney for review. There are three properties in the middle section requiring easement permission from landowners. They are 1)

645 Clark Street, Bruce Kelley, 2) 1488 Sullivan Ave., Center Ridge Development LLC, 3) Plum Ridge Condominium Assoc.

- Once the permitting phase and final design of the middle section is completed it will be shovel ready for construction. Then the remaining two sections of the trail design will commence.
- Steve mentioned Eversource may assist with funding a bridge over Plum Gully stream.
- Cost of construction for the 6-mile trail is estimated to be between 25 to 30 million (this covers ADA, hills bridges, & grades).
- Ginny received four copies of the contract for the Cross-Town Trail Engineering Services from Molly. Please let her know if you would like a copy.
- It was decided **acquiring funding for construction is our next priority**. A subcommittee will meet at Parks & Recreation on **September 21, 2022 at 7PM** to discuss accessing additional financial sources, such as DEEP, CT DOT, www.Transportation.gov/Raisedgrants, Transportation Rural Improvement Program (TRIP), Community Connectivity Grant Program, SS4A website, Grants.gov., and corporate sponsorships.
- Bissell Trail Greenway signs
 - The first set of signs purchased were faulty and could not be used.
 - The second set of signs have arrived and will be installed shortly
- Bike Rack Inventory
 - Ginny is working with Molly and John Caldwell to determine the locations of all bike racks in South Windsor. Ginny submitted six locations for the newly acquired bike racks from CRCOG.
 - Molly will confirm with John Caldwell if we can temporarily spray paint numbers to mark the bike racks.
- SWW&WW Master Plan
 - Peter submitted a list of edits & proposed assignments to work on updating the SWW&WW Master Plan.
 - Peter is moving to New London. He has been the lead person for updating the master plan.
- Organizational Structure Bylaws
 - A Chairperson must be present to hold a meeting was added to Article IX. Meetings
 - A description of officers will be added to Article VII. Elections
 - Under Article IX. Meetings, Section 1. the description of regular meetings will be modified to reflect they “are normally” held on the first Wednesday of each month “unless it lands on a holiday then the meeting date will be adjusted to the following Wednesday. The schedule of SWW&WW meetings will be provided to the Town Clerk by October.”
 - Public participation will be open to business items under Article IXs. Meetings, Section 8. Order of Business.
 - Under Article X. Disqualification, it will be modified to reflect “In the event to such disqualification, the member’s name shall be noted in the minutes”
- SWW&WW calendar events
 - Please note the Adopt-A-Road cleanup originally scheduled for September 24th has been changed to Saturday, October 15, 2022 at 1PM with a rain date of October 16th.

- Parks & Rec has postponed the Trailblazer Poker Ryed scheduled for Saturday, September 17th till next Spring due to erosion problems on the bike trail and low enrollment for the event.
- Parks & Recreation has posted the SWW&WW Fall & Winter Events on the website. Our website name, www.swww.org, does not link to the Parks & Recreation website as it has in the past, they are looking into the issue.
- Special subcommittee groups
 - Ken & Jeff met on August 30th at Parks & Rec to replace worn out tires and seats in preparation for the upcoming 4th grade Bike Safety program classes. Jeff is planning to put together a 5-year budget for maintaining & updating the bikes. He also suggested using a rod to run through the bike tires to secure them from moving in the trailer in place of bungee cords.
 - Bike Program Volunteers – it was suggested we reach out to Senior Center. Contact Andrea Cofranceso. Molly mentioned Stan & Carol, residents of South Windsor, are always interested in helping too.

Other Business:

Upcoming Events:

- **Monday, September 12th** – 4th Grade Bike Safety Program at Philip R Smith School.
 - The classes are 4 days long to accommodate four 4th Grades at PRS and extend from 9/12 through 9/16 with a rain date on 9/19.
 - We plan to meet at 8am on 9/12/22 at Phillip R. Smith School to put air in the bike tires before classes begin.
- **Wednesday, September 21st and 28th** – Adult Morning Bike Ride
 - Ginny and Christine are leading two adult morning bike rides. They will meet at the parking lot next to the soccer field restrooms at Nevers Park. Contact Ginny to help out.
- **Saturday, October 1st** – East Coast Greenway Bike Ride
 - Leaves from South Windsor and will ride to either Highland Park Market in Manchester and/or to Bolton, depending on participant's abilities. The ride begins at 9AM from the One Church at 855 Chapel Road. Contact Ginny to assist with the ride. The Rotary-In-Motion ride is scheduled for the same day.
- **Monday, October 3rd** – 4th Grade Bike Safety Program at Orchard Hill School.
 - The classes will be 6 days long to cover the six 4th Grades at OH. Dates for the first 3 classes will extend from 10/3 through 10/6 with a rain date on 10/7. Dates for the last 3 classes will run from 10/11 through 10/14 with a second rain date of 10/17. Ken is looking for more volunteers to help with the classes.

Announcements:

- **Sunday, September 25th** - Discover Olmsted's CT Tour
 - 2022 marks the 200th anniversary of Olmsted's birth and to celebrate his ties with Connecticut, Bike Walk Connecticut (BWCT) is planning a ride to visit many of the parks and sites he is associated with around central Connecticut.
 - This ride will start at the New Britain Museum of American Art in Walnut Hill Park in New Britain and going various distances (10, 25, and 50 miles)
 - For additional information: <https://www.bikewalkct.org/2022-discover-olmsteds-ct-bicycle-tour.html>

Miscellaneous:

- **Connecticut Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board Meeting – Grants**

League of American Bicyclists' – *Community Spark Grants* – grant applications are Open now through July 15, 2022.

- Skip will review to determine if we would be able to qualify
- The League will award 10 grants of up to \$1,500 to organizations seeking to improve their communities through biking.
- **Gingerbread Festival** – November 25 to December 18, 2022. The Wood Memorial Library could use volunteers to work the event and/or submit a gingerbread creation to display.
- **Capital Region Council of Governments [CROG]** – issued their last Recommendation and Implementation Strategy. See the link below for this report
<https://metrohartfordrapidroutes.com/>

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, October 5th, 2022; at 7:00 pm

SW Parks & Recreation Building, 91 Ayers Road, Guest: Kevin Grindle