

2016 06 09 Minutes Bike & Pedestrian Alliance of Clinton

Eliot House, Thursday, June 9, 2016, 7:30 pm

Debbie Lundgren, Carrie Allen, Hal Tzeutschler, Paul Egan, Ginny Simmons, Bill Appleby, Mark Koschwitz in attendance.

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by Debbie Lundgren.

Minutes were reviewed. Bill moved to accept the minutes, Paul seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Hal reported that he had not yet heard back from Pete Neff about a meeting time to discuss priority routes for bike/ped signage. Since Hal will be out of town for the next month or so, Debbie will follow up on trying to make an appointment.

Paul reported on his efforts to find an engineer to draw up plans for the Indian River foot bridge. Paul's friend Don Gesick, who is a surveyor, offered to survey the route from Cream Pot Road, over the river, and through the woods to the IRRRC for free. Paul will assist him. Craig Laliberte, an architect from Ivoryton, visited the bridge site and submitted a proposal for a bridge design. We just received the proposal the day of our meeting and will read it carefully and discuss it at the next meeting.

The need to proceed with planning of the Shoreline Greenway through Clinton as soon as possible was reiterated by Alan Felgate in an email. Paul, Carrie, Ginny and Mark volunteered to create a subcommittee to work on the Greenway. Ginny knows someone on the Shoreline Greenway Board whom she will contact for advice on how to get started.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, at 7:30 pm, was confirmed as our new meeting time going forward.

Alan Felgate emailed information on a Route 81 Corridor Study Grant, awarded to Clinton by the CTDOT pending the town's willingness to contribute 10% matching funds. The study would look into multi-modal transportation options along Route 81 from Route 1 to Rocky Ledge Dr/Hurd Bridge Rd. BPAC's help is needed to advocate for providing the matching funds to ensure that the study will be done. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting to give everyone time to read the grant application.

We also received a copy of the proposal for a border-to-border sidewalk along Route 1 in Clinton. That proposal does not require action at this time.

The use of the site on the corner of Hull Street and Main Street as a CVS drive-through was discussed. Because this site provides a vital link between the train station and Main Street, the importance of the location as a 'gateway' to Clinton was pointed out. It was resolved that the site is much more valuable to the town as a 'welcome center' for visitors arriving by train than as a drive-through for CVS. Hal moved to accept a resolution to encourage the town to develop this site as an inviting gateway to Clinton's attractions, with open space, perhaps an outdoor café, a bike share or bike rental program, and signage directing pedestrians and bicyclists to nearby points of interest. Ginny seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Debbie will write up a formal resolution to be submitted to the members for review and then to appropriate town commissions and agencies.

Bike/ped connectivity issues were then discussed. It was suggested that an effective, inexpensive method of providing safe access for pedestrians and bicyclists between neighborhoods, parks, malls,

etc., is to require future subdivisions and developments to provide a right-of-way for a path connecting to each adjacent development. When a town adheres to this plan, it provides a safe way for children to bike or walk between neighborhoods or to a nearby park without having to venture out onto the highway. The concept will be discussed further at the next meeting, and we will determine how to introduce it to the appropriate town agencies for their consideration.

The National Bike Challenge, an online challenge to log bicycling miles (for transport or for recreation), was introduced for those who were not familiar with it. Everyone was encouraged to set up an account and log their cycling miles as a means of supporting bicycling advocacy.

Paul moved to adjourn the meeting, Hal seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Minutes were submitted by Debbie Lundgren.