Scituate Bike Committee – Minutes – November 13, 2023

Meeting opened by Nancy Werner at 6:32 PM

In Attendance:

Committee Members:

Nancy Werner

John Belber

Sara Daas

Maura Tighe

Michael Bowler

Dan

Jeff Helm

Liaisons:

Susan Gallagher (SHCC)

Patrick Niebauer (PB)

Guests:
Collen Perkul – SE Coordinator

Minutes of November 13, 2023 meeting approved as written.

NW discussed issue of emails to Committee members. It was approved that emails should be submitted to members through the Town website and not to personal emails.

GUEST SPEAKER: Safe Routes to School: Colleen Perkul. SE Coordinator led a discussion via Zoom on the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program. Important areas to consider included:

* Equity Strategy for all Schools
* Encouragement – to get public involved through Bike Rodeo’s, outreach
* Education: Teach bike safety, road use safety, equipment safety; in school assembly
* Engagement: Use community events, advisory groups, and Scituate Police
* Evaluation: Determine Safe Routes within ½ mile of schools, 2 miles. Develop mapping for students with riding, walkers, and utilize bike train route maps
* Engineering: Grants are available for ‘quick fix; $10,000, $4k for assessments of above, Safe Routes Infrastructure available for$300,000-$2,000,000. Best apply dateAugust – Sept.

SPS Schools – Involve all schools in the program – 3 elementary, middle and high school in outreach and participation by identifying safe crossings and student radius maps. Collen Perkul offered to help with data collection.

GUEST SPEAKER: Craig Miller from the Waterfield Design Group addressed the committee via zoom.

Craig addressed the committee with firm background, experience and prior relationship with work done for the town. He can assist with updates to prior plan development by:

* Take away street width for cars and give to bikes and pedestrians.
* Add technical definitions to public presentations; photos, drawings, etc.
* Be out ahead of public dialog to control discussions
* Create conceptual drawings and alignments
* Identify WEAK POINTS with sketches to create ‘what if’s’
* Control what we ARE and ARE NOT doing

Craig’s firm will help with due diligence at no cost. When ink is on the paper, people will like it, but will want to know COST. Select Board has approved committee meeting with Craig Miller

Committee Member Updates:

Sarah updated committee on several funding opportunities with Mass Trail Grants $60,000-$500,000

There have ben 68 grants in 5 yrs preceding 2023. Reimburement Grant Webinar 11-14-23

Jeff and Jon updated ops with local bike shops; EBikes Norwell/Rockland, Rockland Cycle, SS Mellow Riders. Slow Roll program opportunities

Mike – police data needs to be obtained. Will reach out to SPD Liaison. Need link to current Bike Laws

Patrick – Planning Board – brief discussion of Skysail and Greenbush developments and opportunities.

Next meeting 12-11-23 at 6:30 PM/

Location TBD

Adjourned 8:45 PM