



**Bike and Pedestrian Committee Special Meeting
6:00 PM, Thursday, June 23, 2022
1st Floor Conference Room, Independence Hall
And
Via Conference Call Bridge**

Agenda/minutes can be found here: <https://fairfieldct.org/content/10736/12226/default.aspx>
The meeting recording can be found here: [Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee 06/23/22 - YouTube](#)

FINAL MEETING MINUTES

6:01 – Call to order and Roll Call of Committee members.

- Committee members present: Sarah Roy (Chair), Mary Streeto, Nate Rex, Tim Callahan, Jose Oromi
- Committee members present remotely: Mike Allen
- Committee members absent: Scott Craighead and Steve Gniadek
- Others present: Santina Jaranko (Town of Fairfield Department of Health), Chris Herman (member of public), Mary Hogue (Sustainable Fairfield and Forestry Committee), Tanner Thompson (Chair, Town of Norwalk CT Bike/Walk Commission)

6:05 –Introduction and Ice Breaker by Roy

6:11 –Special Guest: Tanner Thompson, Chair, Town of Norwalk CT Bike/Walk Commission.

Mr. Thompson detailed his background and experiences in Germany as it related to public transportation. Thompson moved to the Norwalk area and began attending Norwalk’s Bike commission when it was just a task-force charged with increasing road access and safety for cyclists and pedestrians. Norwalk added the task-force into City Charter as a commission in 2017. Commission has an administration budget of \$10,000 and has an advisory role within the town, especially as it relates to major transportation projects. Town of Norwalk director of Transportation engages with the Bike/Walk commission to help with the town’s adoption of their Complete Streets Policy. Thompson also outlined their current large project the Norwalk River Valley Trail. This mixed-use path/trail will be one of the first protected bike routes in Fairfield county. Thompson then took the time to answer specific questions about how Norwalk plans and executes multi-modal transportation projects and compared Norwalk to other cities and towns in CT like New Haven, and Fairfield.

6:52 –Town Updates:

1. **Town Engineering:** no one present. Hurley on Vacation, Megha studying for PE licensing exam
2. **Health Department: Santina Jaranko** looking to disburse funds from Block Grant. Currently looking at the South Pine Creek Sidewalk gap project. Block Grant was also extended for another year (year 4) which should be over \$16,000 to be used in bicycle or pedestrian related infrastructure expenditures. State also indicated that they'd support an additional expenditure of \$7,000 for signage for the proposed Greenfield Hill bike route. Bike Share bikes are still looking for a home.
3. **Police:** No one present, waiting for a representative to be assigned in the fall after they complete a mandatory Thursday evening training class. However, there have been some concerns regarding the Bird Scooters being used improperly: on sidewalks, and by riders younger than allowed. Recommendations from the group were to try to "geo-fence" the scooters away from certain areas and potentially limit their top-speed from 15mph to 12mph.
4. **Sustainable Fairfield Taskforce: Mary Hogue** Tree planting for fall: 70 people have expressed interest in having trees planted, 150 trees planted in Spring 2022. Working on attaining Climate Leader Certification through Sustainable CT.

7:03 –Sub-Committee Updates

1. **Infrastructure and design working group:** Rex submitted updated map and cue-sheet for Police commission review in advance of their July 13th meeting.
2. **Events & Education working group:** Mike Allen reported that there are no updates, but he followed up with Bike Rodeo stakeholders and there is a willingness to do it again
3. **Relationships and Policy:** Mary and Tom, waiting for contact back from local Universities. Hogue and Roy to send their known contacts to Mary and Tom.
4. **Public Comments/feedback review:** Committee did not have any comments on public comments/feedback received over the past few months.

7:15 –Chair Updates: Assigning new members to working groups: Jose to Relationships, Tim to Infrastructure and design.

FBPC were invited to participate in the local 5k race as a volunteer and Tom Keane volunteered and did a wonderful job helping out.

Alyssa Israel plans to make a donation to the Committee in thanks for Tom's efforts. Discussion of revisions to Committee Charge tabled to July meeting.

Asphalt Art for Traffic Calming: working on a pilot project of 4-6 locations. Rise-Up group working with CT Murals identified as a potential partner for the project. CT Murals help with the fund-raising, cover the insurance, and help coordinate volunteers.

Roy also attended Smart Growth America Complete Streets webinar. Smart Growth America works with State DOT's to help implement Complete Streets and other items (Bollards, Asphalt Art, etc.). Application is due July 29th and Roy has reached out to CT DOT to encourage them to apply.

Fire Chief and Deputy Chief will be guests in September, Doug Hausladen from New Haven is August Guest.

Roy also requested that the People for Bikes rate our town on our bike infrastructure in 2023.

Roy connected with Julie Demarco from Town of Fairfield Social Services and the committee on disabilities. How is the town helping people with Disabilities? Transportation is a component of helping people with Disabilities.

Committee member Tom Keane was designated to take Minutes for July 2022 Meeting and Steve Gniadek was designated for August 2022 meeting.

7:32 - Tim Callahan motioned for adjournment, Mary Streeto Seconded and unanimously approved.

Next meeting will take place at 6 PM on Thursday, July 21, 2022.

Submitted by Nate Rex.