

Milton Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

29 January 2008, 6:30 PM. Town Hall Small Conference Room

In attendance:

Erick Ask
Mike Blackwell
Walter Heller
Wendy Ingram
Hugh Stringer
Lee Toma

1. Status of Central Ave (Walter): Construction money approved by state (\$1.8M), but town currently does not have the money to bring the design/engineering from the 25% stage to the 75% stage, so can't move forward. Town Meeting will be asked to budget money for engineering, but not certain with current tight budgets. Project on hold until money is available.
2. Blue Hills Pkwy (Walter): Elliot to Brook section construction to start in April. New signal, and bike lanes on both sides. Waiting on funding for later phases.
3. Bike racks (Walter): the new racks have been purchased and locations selected. Will be installed soon, waiting for better weather. Should be done by July 1.
4. "Share the Road" signage (Walter): These will begin to be installed after they've finished up with the road name signs throughout town. Will be placed along routes identified by the bike map. Should be done by July 1.
5. Pleasant and Edge Hill roads (Walter / group): possibility to stripe these roads for bike lanes this year.
6. The DCR project to stripe bike lanes along Truman Pkwy seems to be on hold or canceled. Need to find out more.
7. Milton Green Day will be May 3.
8. The next public meeting to discuss the Pine Tree Brook path is tentatively scheduled for Thursday Feb 28, 7:00 PM, in the Town Hall Large Conference room. Mike and Walter will work to get notices to the abutters, and an announcement in the Milton Times.
9. Bike Map: Mike will look into getting them printed and distributed. Sir Speedy in Braintree had been previously recommended (owners live in Milton). There is a new print shop opening soon on Blue Hills Pkwy near Brook that we should look into as well.
10. The table we had at Celebrate Milton (Oct 2007) was a success – we handed out maps and talked to a lot of people about bicycling in Milton.

11. The Bike Safety Training program we held in Sep 2007 was also a big success. About 40 kids showed up. The primary goal is really educating the parents.

12. The DPW Open House (held at the DPW yard) will be some time in May. Walter suggested we do the next Bike Safety Training course there at the same time, as well as possibly the Bike Sale. Lots of parents already come with their kids, and the DPW provides free food! Lots of space, we can set up a training course with signs, etc.

Need to decide if this is the right spot for the Bike Sale. Cunningham has been good to us in the past, and we still have a number of bikes stored there. Will discuss with Marge.

Need to pick a date that doesn't conflict with other spring events. Lee will check on races, etc being done by other groups.

13. Safe Routes to School (Erick): Milton was part of the pilot program several years ago, but then it languished. Glover is now signed up for this year, and Erick will contact the other elementary school PTO's to see if they want to participate as well.

14. Discussed other groups that have overlapping goals as us: Sustainable Milton, service clubs, bike committees in neighboring towns. Mike will try to contact the Quincy bike committee to see what they are up to. Erick showed us the bike master plan from Hull.

15. Family Bike Day: brainstormed ideas – family ride, kids races, scavenger hunt. Probably some time in the summer? Need more work on this.

16. May is National Bike Month. Erick will contact the Milton Times about running an article every week that month highlighting different aspects of cycling in Milton.

17. Walter suggested we give a presentation to the Planning Board about opportunities to better accommodate bikes, such as racks. Bill Clark is the contact at the Planning Board.

18. Briefly discussed the Bicycle Friendly Community program. Mike will put together a presentation for the Selectmen to get the ball rolling.

Adjourned 8:00 PM.

Notes compiled by Mike Blackwell.