

Newburyport Livable Streets Meeting
Newburyport Public Library Program Room
Newburyport, MA
7pm to 9pm
6/5/18

Meeting minutes

Meeting started 7:05pm

Attendees

Conrad Willeman, Jennifer Groskin, Lisa Ellrott, Thomas Ellrott, Hollis Ellrott, Kathi Rodriquez, Trish Kurkul, Tyler Cowles, Graham Smith, Liam Smith, Juliet Walker, Kitty Krajei, Christine Wallace, Betsy Goodrich, Judy Tymon, Gary Gorski, Nolan Ellrot, Denis Robert

Open Discussion

- Betsy Goodrich, Transportation Planner from the Merrimac Valley Planning Commission (MVPC), attended the meeting
- Dennis Robert, local resident, is doing a study on cyclist safety and is seeking volunteers to take a 2-minute reaction test on a computer program he developed. He is specifically studying how to make cyclists more visible to drivers by using different colors to stimulate driver peripheral vision. He is trying to understand which are the best colors, and what types of helmets or clothing cyclists could wear.
- Other new attendees stated they are interested in bike and pedestrian access and safety as a whole throughout the city

Business

- Juliet Walker nominated Conrad Willeman as Clerk, Christine Wallace seconded the motion, unanimously approved
- Juliet Walker nominated Rick Taintor as Treasurer and authorized to accept funds on behalf of the organization, Judy Tymon seconded, unanimously approved
- Juliet Walker nominated Judy Tymon to accept funds on behalf of the organization, Judy Tymon seconded, unanimously approved

Updates

- High Street Safe Routes to School Project – Public Meeting June 14th at 6:30 at the library.
- Complete Streets Funding Program – no further information and it is unknown if the city has selected a consultant yet to do the prioritization plan.
- Hale Street Task Force – no updates
- Traffic Safety Advisory Committee – no meeting for June. NLS is considering requesting the city appoint a NLS representative to the TSAC.

- Merrimac St Safety Initiative – neighbors are submitting a letter to the City Council expressing concern with Parks Department operations out of Atkinson Common. Truck traffic and maintenance activities impede pedestrian and bike access along the path from Lower to Upper Atkinson.
- Library Bike Racks – Gary Gorski will be meeting with representatives of the library to get them on board with installing new bike racks located on along the front path and/or on Harris Street
- Open Streets – NLS looking into an Open Streets event in September near downtown and the south end

Video Presentation

- Students from the Nock Middle School showed a video presentation they prepared for their school project. They recorded themselves biking on various streets throughout the city with a go-pro, and showed how the streets and infrastructure need improvements to make biking more safe. They hope to play the video for the City Council.

Action Items:

- High Street Safe Routes to School Public Meeting - June 14, 6:30 pm at the Library
- TSAC Meeting – canceled for June
- Next NLS Meeting: June 26, Children’s Room

Meeting Adjourned – 8:40pm