

Newburyport Livable Streets
May 7, 2019 – 7:00-8:30 PM
Newburyport Public Library – Children’s Activity Room

Meeting Notes

Attendance

Judy Tymon, Alden Clark, Elizabeth Marcus, Conrad Willeman, Bob Uhlig, Ben Iacono, Karen Holt, Rick Taintor, Christine Wallace, Juliet Walker

Guests: Andrea Egmont, Newburyport Youth Services, Sharon Kennedy, Susan Levine, and six 8th grade students from Nock

Open Discussion

There are concerns about how speed limits are communicated, including where the citywide 25 mph default speed limit applies. Additional signage is needed in specific places, including on High and Merrimac Streets. Also communication with GPS mapping companies, and coordination of speed monitoring signs with speed limit signs. These concerns should be brought to a TSAC meeting.

Newburyport Youth Services

Andrea Egmont spoke about Newburyport Youth Services activities and how they relate to NLS’s interests and activities.

- “Positive Youth Development Approach” – youth are resources, not problems. Create systems that support youth.
- “40 Assets” model – research-based
- Beacon Coalition – many sectors of the community
- “I Support Youth Assets” / “I Support You” campaign, for almost 10 years

New campaign: “Youth Thrive” / “Five to Thrive” (“40 is too many”)

- Five things that the City will do to support kids.
- Anxiety and depression.
- Dr. Peter Gray – decline of play, especially free play
- “Let Grow” – national campaign / organization

Major initiatives:

- Going to start “play clubs” – 1 hour of free play – adults are hands-off (like lifeguards) – no interaction unless a dangerous situation. Nock-Molin, Bresnahan.
- Project Let Grow – starts in the fall
- New babies on the block program – give training for older kids
- Doctors – developmental wheel at physicals

Other ideas/activities:

- Hale Street: Andi is talking with Geordie about this being a priority. NYS could support this project, and get volunteers.
- Promote bicycling and walking as part of summer camps this year, and at the beginning of the school year.
- “Youth Thrive” newsletter (new)
- Neighborhood Scavenger Hunt – North End, sometime in June
- “Share the Warmth” – hot chocolate stand day – early winter
- Financial support for neighborhood block parties
- Andi has 250-person email list – can add our information with the Youth Thrive label added
- In-town shuttle – Mayor is interested

Schools:

- Frank Callahan, School Committee member, is very supportive
- Wellness Teams in schools are also good partners

Open Streets

- Megan Tierney, Police Department Resource Officer, is interested in the bike rodeo

NLS Activities Updates

- High Street Safe Routes to School project – construction start in spring 2020
- Juliet reported on a contact with Aileen O’Rourke, MassBike and member of Manchester-by-the-Sea bike-ped committee. She has invited us to attend a committee meeting in Manchester and plans to attend one of our meetings. She is also interested in convening regional meetings of North Shore local bike-ped groups to share information and ideas.
- Film night (June 18) – We have a near-final list of films. Elizabeth is working on securing permissions and transferring the films to Blu-Ray.
- Tactical urbanism – discussion of design ideas
- Open Streets (June 23)
 - 2 or 3 police details at \$200 each
 - Publicity: Alden will contact Richard Lodge (News), Bob will contact Local Pulse, Judy will contact Port Media
 - All of us should try to get 2 volunteers – standing at intersections and helping drivers

Next Meetings

- The meeting dates through September are as follows:

- June 4

- July 16

- September 10

Adjourn at 8:30 PM