

SCBA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:00 PM. Location: Virtual Meeting

(email thesouthcoastbikeway@gmail.com for access)

Meeting called to order @ 6:14.

In attendance: Bob Espindola, Sandy Medeiros, Paul Foley, Catherine Defarias, Gail Rodrigues, Tabitha Harkin, Keith Macdonald, Sarah Labossiere, Seth Asser, Mary-Ellen Boyle

STANDING ITEMS

1. Treasurer's Report (Balance checking accounts, Anticipated Receipts, Amounts owed)
 - Only charge is \$75 membership to League of American Wheelmen
 - SCBA Main Checking Account: \$3819.10
 - SCBA Scenic Greenway Checking Account: \$5662.65
 - Report unanimously approved.
2. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting
 - Online approval to be sought, once minutes are circulated.

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Bay Coast Bank grant application - Gail
 - SCBA awarded \$10,000 for Scenic Greenway Feasibility Study
 - Confirmed on June 17. Great news!
 - Gail and Sandy will work with their Marketing Coordinator on announcement, logos
 - \$\$ sent to SRPEDD we think, will check with Jackie
 - People are working remotely so not checking mail at the office regularly.
 - Non-profit filing papers also at SRPEDD office? Bob will check.
2. Accountant and audit status - Bob Guidestar rating, Officers, Filing status
 - Still waiting to hear. State is quite bogged down with other paperwork.
3. SCBA member communities' updates (see end of this document)
4. Scenic Greenway/Grant status - Feasibility Study update
 - Will announce grant recipients on Thursday morning at 10. Keith is on the call.
5. NBW Presentation – Sandy
 - Stalled at the moment. Awaiting info from towns.
 - Not particularly time sensitive.
 - Sandy shared slides with all. Each town representative can submit info.
 - Who is the audience? About 20 people attended a recent NBW meeting.
 - We will have more to share in a few weeks or so.
6. Review, approve, send a letter to regional representatives to garner support for SCBA projects. Invite local representatives to a meeting with SCBA and SRPEDD.
 - HOLD until we hear about MassTrails grant on Thursday. Then edit.
 - Add CPC people, Rec Department, Town Admin, Planning

- Sandy will follow up
- Using Mail Chimp so we can track responses, etc.

7. Events/Outreach

September - rescheduled Massachusetts Bike Month

- Proposed 3rd Annual Pedal for the Path: September 13, 2020 Dartmouth YMCA
- Proposed: 11th Annual Summit
 - Topic: South Coast Rail: It's Coming! - Connecting our Communities with rail, bike, ped
 - Location: UMD/virtual Speaker(s) Pete Sutton, Jean Fox,...
 - Still want to do this?
 - Include SRPEDD outreach for Scenic Greenway.
 - Can we streamline?

Discussion:

- Need to keep new activities manageable given current volunteers.
- Sandy investigated several types of virtual rides. They include SWAG.
- Calendar Raffle also a possibility: would include walkers and runners as well as bikers.
 - Time frame is probably too short.
 - Lots of state regulations to investigate and comply with.
- Virtual Pedal for the Path? Or an unsupported ride? Would like to offer some support.
- Bob: ok to step back this year, can be part of the message. Trying to keep momentum. Join us for an informal ride.
- Sandy – possibly three overlapping routes ending in new Mattapoisett extension, station people along road to represent towns and SCBA.
- Question about insurance. If advertised as donation no fee, optional amounts.
- Bob – informal ride might be enough. No approvals needed.
- More revenue allows us to offer matching funds for certain grant applications.
 - Can we just use FB to get \$\$?
 - Maybe just former Bike Month Ride structure (informal)?
 - Keep Pedal for Path name for continuity. Ok that this year is different.
 - Can't forget SRPEDD outreach planned for Summit.
- Will Pete Sutton etc be interested/available? Keith says no in person events. Will they do virtual?
- Keith – how much impact will it have, September vs. next spring?
 - Depends on if we get a grant.
 - If yes, we discuss Phase 2 plans
 - If not, we need to put pressure on local elected officials.
 - We will revisit once we find out about Mass Trails Grant.

Informational brochure: what to do in the event of a crash.

- No longer relevant.

8. Items not listed at time of agenda posting.

- Regional video?

- Did it get too big?
- Derek Frates from Fairhaven will provide PSA studio space for filming. But we might want to be outdoors. Can use drones in Fairhaven.
- Do we still want to take this on?
 - Small clip from each community.
 - Then patch all together.
 - 10-12 minutes long total.
 - Could get a SRPEDD drone.
 - Mattapoissett is very interested. Ideally outside.
 - Sandy – maybe a later release. January? We would have more info and time.
 - Fairhaven is interested.
 - Lots going on with New Bedford & Fall River
 - Scenic Greenway a story in and of itself.
- Bob will keep this moving. Will get a few communities done as examples.

9. Next meeting date: August 11, 2020

MEMBER UPDATES

Wareham - none

Marion – Jeff sent email:

Hi all,

I may not attend tonight's meeting but I can report I have been working all week on Marion's Point Road spur path to the eastern end of our pending SCBA Shared Use Path (SUP). I expect the spur will be constructed by next summer, before the SUP (spring 2023) but it will continue the momentum along with Mattapoissett's progress to the west.

I am willing to participate in the production of a promotional video if it is pursued. I will also be reaching out to a couple of folks in Marion who showed an interest in the SUP and try to get them involved either locally or on the SCBA.

thanks and keep up the good work.

Mattapoissett

- Summary document with script for video.
- Friends of Bike path met w/local officials last week. Positive meeting. Want to see it finished, so it will get support.
- Seth is playing a key liaison role.

- Project completion earliest this fall. Anytime September through the end of year.

Fairhaven

Committee getting rolling again. Appointed two new members, including Paul Foley (at this meeting). Two big projects:

1. Complete Streets (choosing engineering firm soon) ,
2. Sconticut Neck crossing next year.

New Bedford

- Finishing the plan for Blue Lane expansion
- StarChaser Ride last week – BLM Mural ride. Not official NB ride, but lots of enthusiasm and involvement
- River Walk (more pedestrian)
 - From Coggeshall (Market Basket) along shoreline north to Freetown border
 - Talking to design firms
 - Pro bono by Brown Richardson Rowe and Jacobs
 - Working with land owners
 - Habitat restoration and pedestrian bike path
 - Phased approach
 - Draft plan soon to be published
 - Maybe paths off the Industrial Park (mountain bike focus)
 - MassTrails grant feasibility study for the Blue Lane: Working Waterfront Connector with Jacobs engineering. The preferred option of three options developed in the study is for a side path along Herman Melville. We are now looking at grant opportunities for further development of the project.

Dartmouth

Still waiting for the Pathways Committee to be revived. Greg Barnes is the only other member. Want to meet with the Town Administrator and Selectmen. Goal is to meet with various departments and make a big picture plan.

Westport

1. Representatives invited Gail & Keith to a meeting about Rt 6 safety. Bikes and bus shelter to be discussed.
2. Renewing open meeting law certificate.
3. Working on bikes at the dump recycling program. New signs. Need a partner to repair. Scotty's cannot take it on. Might ask Yesteryear. Also ask the head of StarChasers.
4. Question from Gail: Who was doing pro bono in NB? Jacobs (engineering) Tabitha will get names to Gail.

Fall River

1. Chose VHB to build Westport extension. Negotiating with the Planning Dept for scope and services and cost. Sara is checking on \$\$ set aside.
2. Quequechan RT ends at LePages where people have been parking until recently. New signs about towing.
 - A. Looking into the paper road – what is allowed? Who owns it?
 - B. Another possible parking site, but across Rt 6.
 - C. Sara will report next month.

3. Also South Wattupa spur in planning (same RFQ). Being completed separately. Need a feasibility study first. Need to cross the highway. Lots to figure out.
4. No progress on Mt Hope Bay. Stantek is still getting public comments. Will end soon.
5. She will email Brian Pearson about maps. SRPEDD will update Fall River with preferred SCB routing.
6. Quequechan River clean up on July 25th.
7. Quequechan Advisory meeting soon.

Somerset Nancy Durfee, Town Planner, has conflict with attending our meetings. Will seek out a volunteer. The town will be creating a pilot project for shared bike paths. We are still in the early phases of determining the direction.

Swansea

- a. Catherine has done all requirements. She is official! Yay.
- b. Spoke to Town Planner, then Highway Director.
- c. Eventually learned that they had a plan in the past, including Berkley and Rehoboth in addition to Somerset.
- d. In Swansea, SCBA signs are there. Well marked.
- e. New members needed:
 - i. Bob suggested posting a notice (newspaper or social media) to find more interested people.
 - ii. Gail's ideas:
 1. Bike shops a potential resource. But no one can go inside yet. Will follow up.
 2. Check with town for any historical documentation.
 3. Ask for announcements at town government meetings, where other vacancies are announced.
 - iii. Bob – Can we use the SCBA mailing list.
 - iv. Sandy – we ask in the legislative letter. Could include in the need for representatives in our September communications re Bike Month.