

Montpelier Complete Streets Committee

March 6, 2019 at 5:30 pm

Attendees: Harris Webster, Nancy Schultz, Jeanne Kern, Gary Holloway, John Snell

Guest: Philip Picotte

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion, the minutes were approved.

Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion, the agenda was approved with two additions:

1. An item on the City's forthcoming public online reporting tool (Harris)
2. An item on committee member recruitment (Nancy)

Monthly Bridge Ad

Nancy reported that:

- The website link change was made and is functioning (www.montpelier-vt.org/907)
- The current ad message (Be bright, be seen, be rewarded) will repeat in March

The committee discussed possible future campaigns, such as:

- Pedestrian scramble event in May
- Distracted pedestrians
- Ways to let the city know about damaged sidewalks and pedestrians ("Tracker", the online reporting tool)
 - o Gary will follow up with Cory regarding Tracker

Lighted Arm Bands

Nancy said that, to date, 6 people have been acknowledged as winners in Front Porch Forum

- 5 winners to go (at most, 1 post per week is used to announce the winner)
- Any left-over gift certificates will be given out in the fall

Committee members have given out 1,000 lighted armbands, and Nancy said Aubuchon is planning to carry them in the Downtown Montpelier store pending corporate approval. In addition, Guy's Farm and Yard carries various reflective gear.

Covered Bike Parking

After the Norwich University project provided possible designs and estimates, Nancy said the Montpelier Transportation Infrastructure Committee (MTIC) encouraged the Complete Streets Committee to consider off-the-rack bike shelters for price comparison. Norwich estimated \$5,000 in materials, plus more for labor to construct. An off-the-rack shelter is double, at roughly \$10,000 plus labor and freight shipping. MTIC is determining how to move forward.

Pedestrian Scramble on Saturday, May 4

- o Three scrambles will be held
- o Harris suggests Mayfest (first weekend of May); Saturday is Green Up Day and Sunday is All Species Day

- Gary suggested that Saturday, May 4, will have some walkup traffic, and the Scrambles could utilize shared marketing with Mayfest
- Harris asked for assistance with work of preparing site list and routes
- Nancy requested photos to try and get into the Bridge or the Times Argus to promote the event

GPS Inventory for Sidewalks

- Harris talked to the Director of Public Works and to the Mayor
- Director Tom McArdle is willing to do GPS every 4-5 years for ADA compliance
 - DPW does not want to do an inventory every year given the labor involved
- It is unclear how sidewalk condition is measured; the City Council could set goal of improvement so that progress is clearly tracked
 - John: A percentage improvement may already be a goal in Complete Streets report
 - The Complete Streets report is online

Pathways and Signs

- The Parks Department made new sign posts for Hubbard Park
 - Each sign takes around 2 hours on a laser to make one sign
 - 30 minutes per side, four sides to each post
- 2 laser engraving machines are in Burlington; thus, 70-80 dollars per post, plus installation
- Signs for new path could use these slides
 - John and Gary will figure out how many posts are needed

Scooter Pilot Program

- The future status of the e-scooter program is unclear; no decision has been announced in regard to 2019

New Committee Members

Gary said the Committee is seeking new committee members

- Gary will follow up with high school about a student member
- Gary will ask Jamie to post on FPF inviting new members
- An article in the paper will warrant interest (Scramble, Path)

Comments from Public

- The Committee noted the Elm Street sidewalk diversion adjacent to the Sweet Melissa Building
- The Committee discussed the winter maintenance imbalance between sidewalk conditions and roadway conditions
- Solutions include
 - Adding an additional sidewalk plow
 - Addressing drainage issues on and adjacent to sidewalk trouble spots
 - The Committee will invite Tom to a meeting in May

The Committee adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 3, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm, City Manager's Conference Room.