

Town of Bethany Beach
Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Meeting
March 30, 2023

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Committee held a meeting on Thursday March 30, 2023, at 10:00 am at the Bethany Beach Town Hall.

Present: Mickey Hinman(Chair), Diane Fogash, Faith Denault, Theresa Keil, Dan Rosenblatt, Tim Switzer, Carl Tull and Cliff Gravier (Town Manager).

Also present: Andrea Harpster, Secretary.

Mr. Hinman called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Approval of the Agenda

Ms. Denault made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Tull. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of the Minutes from February 16, 2023

Ms. Fogash made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Ms. Keil. The motion was unanimously approved.

Safety Contact:

Mr. Hinman presented a safety video addressing distractions.

Formal welcome to our new team member; Tim Switzer

Update from the Town Manager

The Town will be developing a Bethany visitor app. A component of the application will be Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety and the WAVE campaign. Mr. Rosenblatt made a motion to endorse the app, seconded by Ms. Keil. It was unanimously approved.

Findings from the Traffic Group Study

The Town does not have anything from the Traffic Group Study yet. They continue to visit the Town routinely. They are still looking into things and putting them into their models now and hopefully we will have something from them before our next meeting.

Sharing of experiences from the South Bethany Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Committee

Edie Dondero and Bob Biciocchi from South Bethany shared their concerns and ideas with the committee. South Bethany established a Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee in 2021 due to having significant issues with bicycle and pedestrian safety in their Town. Some of the first things we have focused on are education and outreach along with any physical improvements. Signage has been put up and flashing beacons were installed in 2020. They had the Town Council approve a reduction in the speed limit. The Town also hosts a bike rodeo, which is an educational effort for residents and visitors. Safety checks are performed, and safety lights are installed by the Police Department. There is also a popular obstacle course to teach kids hand signals. There was a lot of response to this event, and it will now be an annual event. South Bethany hopes to continue to work together and attend each other's meetings and meet quarterly.

Updates from the WAVE sub committee

a. Upgrades to the WAVE pamphlet

The brochures should be in within a week and will be ready to hand out at different events around Bethany.

b. T-shirt Design

The committee will approve a design for the T-shirts. Those will be made for the committee to wear and to hand out selectively. The committee will also look into participating in the 4th of July parade.

c. Confirmation of Bike Safety Checkpoints on 7/27 from 8-11 and 8/10

Sgt Foley sent confirmation regarding those dates to the committee.

d. Community outreach Touchpoints and Schedule

Mr. Switzer put together a list of potential dates and times for the committee to interact with the community. The committee will look into getting volunteers to help as well.

e. Linkage into Social Platforms

Mr. Rosenblatt will monitor social media for the committee.

f. Potential next guests

The committee is still reaching out to potential next guests and has some informational webinars to present in the future.

Public Comment:

Anne McKinney(414 Gibson Ave) would like to volunteer at some events and suggested that we have an informational table at the concerts and have a volunteer sign up sheet.

Bob Biciocchi Mentioned that South Bethany PD might be interested in coming up to the podium at certain events and sharing information on the bike rodeo as well. There's also a

planner from SCAT and it would be beneficial to have them speak to the Town about their upcoming planned improvements.

Art Diver(330 Third Street): Thinks continuity between Fenwick Island down to the Indian River Bridge is key. There should be shoulder stencils and no stopping standing and parking signs installed. He suggests , if possible, the consideration of putting some lights on a trip wire instead of a timer. Also, if there is work being done off the shoulders, it would be great if they had some trail or outlet for the bikes to go through, so they don't have to go around it on the road. Mr. Diver would be happy to volunteer and would welcome a speaker at their HOA meetings in Hidden Harbour.

The next meeting will be held April 27th tentatively.

Adjourn:

Mr. Rosenblatt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Keil seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Andrea Brosius, Secretary