

Harwich Bikeways Committee Minutes Wednesday May 17, 2023 5:00 - 6:00 PM EST)

The monthly meeting of the Harwich Bikeways meeting was held, Wednesday May 17 at 5PM at the Ch18 Studio Harwich Community Center. In attendance were Harwich Committee members, Paul Gazaille, Charles Walkley and Charlene Pilon by remote connection. Also in attendance were special special guests the members of the Chatham Bikeways committee, Bob Oliver, Steve Wardle, Dave Yates, Brad Bivens, Dave Widing

Under New Business the minutes from the April meeting of the Harwich Bikeways were approved and will be posted on the Town of Harwich website.

A lengthy discussion of the uniform renumbering of the OCRT. Members of the Chatham committee explained why it is needed and how it can be accomplished. Part of the Chatham OCRT is slated to be repaved. After that work is completed the Chatham DPW will paint the new trail markings. The committee members agreed the starting point or mile "0" will be the bike rotary in Harwich. Chatham will allow the Harwich h DPW the stencils to make the mile markers uniform.

There was some discussion on Trail safety by putting up signage. However this matter was tabled to a future date. Chatham asked for a Policy on use of electric bikes along the OCRT. The committees agreed that we will follow the policy of the CCRT and the NSRT. The electric bikes will be limited to Class 1 and Class 2 pedal assist. Also the committees agreed to a policy of 15 MPH on the trail as is the CCRT.

Chatham asked the Harwich committee what our policy is on the installation/removal of the bollards that appear at certain intersections. This matter will be discussed with the individual DPW's/Safety committees.

Bob Oliver updated the HBC on Chatham George Ryder Road improvements. The town of Chatham was recently awarded a Trail Grant for improvements to the trail that runs along George Ryder Road. The existing entrance to/from George Ryder road will be moved slightly south. A new trail will run along the airport fencing allowing for bike/pedestrian use off the road. A parking lot will be paved for use by the Airport and OCRT

users. Bob also mentioned that they have a request for a grant to continue the trail along George Ryder Road to the end of George Ryder road where it meets Rt28. There is a new roundabout at this intersection with a bike lane established. This will allow bikers to access Barn Hill Rd

The Chatham Committee members mentioned that trail counts were very helpful with their applications for grants. They mentioned the the Cape Cod Commission was helpful in. Obtaining the information. They also mentioned that we should use

uniform trail maps. They were informed Harwich is using their map model. We have had our own printing however. We did discuss how to better combat vandalism along the trail however no resolution was found. Both committee have agreed to joint coordination with Cape Cod Commission and Dept. of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) re: Cape Cod Rail Trail,

Carolyn Carey, the director of the Harwich Community Center, spoke to the committee asking for the committees help in sponsoring a Kids Day Bike event scheduled for June 14. She said more details will follow

Meeting was adjourned at 6PM

No Harwich Bikeways meeting was scheduled for June

Respectfully submitted

Francis Salewski