



Watertown Bi-Ped Committee

Monthly Meeting May 4, 2009



Next Meeting
Monday, June 1, 7:30 PM
Administration Building

Minutes of Watertown Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee

Present: Fred Hewett, Mari Ryan, Steve Engler, Sheila Fay, Maria Saiz, Janet Jameson, Jeannette Belcher-Schepis, Sue Tamber, Brad Parsons

* Item: Safe Routes to School

Jeannette's recent updates regarding CSRS.

- Pennies for Pedestrians started off slowly due to Good Friday and school vacation but is starting to pick up.
- Hosmer had a "Green Walk", great turn out, ~200 walkers, 50 bikers
- April 15th was McCarthy's March. Involved taking students who bus and anyone else who wishes to participate and they walk around the school grounds; very good turn out, occurs on Wednesdays.
- Jeannette met with Dorothy Haas and Steve Magoon to discuss the role of CSRTS in future planning.
- Jeanette presented program over view to the Board of Health to coincide with grant applications for CSRTS
 - 1) Mass in Motion grant submitted. It is a wellness-based proposal and we will hear by May 12th. This is a \$40K grant which would expand Jeanette's position and solidify the CSRTS program in terms of funding for the next two years.
 - 2) Grant would be used to fund the program at the Middle School level, the Peer Leadership program and provide sustainability.
- October will be "Walk-tober", linking cycling and walking with a story walk.
 - 1) Applied to the Watertown O'Neil grant. Monies would be used to fund an artist in residence event.
 - 2) The artist would be author D.B. Johnson who wrote/illustrated "Henry Walks to Fitchburg".
 - 3) The author would spend time at the schools with the students for a week.
 - 4) Grant is for \$4,400.

* Item: Bicycle Friendly Community

- Fred asked the group to view Steve's document and begin to apply their "E" to the format.

* Item: Snow Shoveling

- Fred received an e-mail from Susan Falkoff requesting WBPC to begin dialogue with Watertown Police regarding snow removal. Her idea is to focus attention on identified "key routes".
- Initial reaction was most streets are key routes since MBTA bus routes run on Mt. Auburn, Belmont, Main and Arsenal Street.
- One suggestion was to enforce current rules on businesses.
- Chief of Police will attend the June meeting to discuss this issue.

* Item: Community Path

- Grant has been submitted to WCES to study how to extend the path west
- Steve Magoon is on board with the project and is very enthusiastic
- Grant will be used to determine who owns property through out this section

* Item: Miscellaneous

- Brainstorming on how to increase traffic on our website
- TAB continues to decline printing CSRTS announcements
- Sheila reminded the group to participate in Bay State Bike Week