

MINUTES
Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety Committee Meeting
March 8, 2023

**Due to ongoing construction activity at South Bethany Town Hall, this meeting was held remotely via GoToMeeting.*

Attendees: Bob Biciocchi (Chair), Bill Tinklepaugh , Bob Shields, Edie Dondero, Dennis Roberts
Absent: Ritt Dallaire, Rob Herb, Glenn Tom

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Biciocchi at 2:04 PM.

The minutes of the December 12, 2022, meeting were unanimously approved.

There were no members of the public present and, thus, no public comment period.

Discussion of Approved FY2024 Budget Items

Mr. Biciocchi reported that in discussion with the Town Manager that the approved Public Works budget will include funds to repaint the existing speed humps and the “walking man” stencils; replace the faded Wrong Way signs on Ocean Drive; and change the speed limit signs on the appropriate streets. The significance is that the annual Town Budget will now include the routine annual maintenance of the Public Safety street and signage markings.

Mr Biciocchi reported that new, more visible, graphic/ text signage on Kent Avenue detailing the Black Gum seasonal turning restrictions were approved by Chief Lovins and the Town Manager for installment this season. The signage would replace the existing signage and continue to provide the same dates and times for restricted entry into BlackGum from either direction off of Kent Road.

The Committee discussed possible new signage areas for additional Bike and Pedestrian Safety instruction. Mr Roberts suggested a new Bike and Pedestrian Safety placard be made for display near the town history information located on the walkway path at Evergreen Rd. where many pedestrians stop and read existing signage about the town history. Mr. Tinklepaugh and Mr. Shields thought it was a good idea and that there might be several places where this might be added. Ms. Dondero mentioned that there are several Trail/Path signs at different places in community and that possibly those signs might be locations to add safety instructions/information for Walking and Cycling. The Chair agreed to photo these locations and share the information back with the Committee.

The Bike Rodeo event has been funded for 2023 and Mr Shields recommended that event to be on Saturday, July 8th, 2023. Ms. Dondero noted the event was not yet on the Town Calendar

and suggested to begin planning the event. Mr. Biciocchi would get it scheduled and explore potential event sponsors from the local cycling businesses.

An article was shared with the Committee by Mr. Shields about Delaware having a high national pedestrian fatality rate. The discussion was expanded by Ms. Dondero about the recent Bethany Traffic Study report that mentions possible Speed Limit reduction on Coastal Hwy.

Mr Tinklepaugh raised the issue of possible plans to install median barriers similar to Dewey Beach area and Mr Biciocchi with Ms Dondero stated that the Council has no current plan to do so.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05pm. The next meeting will be held in April 2023, date to be determined.