

Minutes of the
Montpelier Pedestrian Committee
Meeting of August 25, 2015

Members Present: Eve Jacobs-Carnahan, Chair, Erin Aguayo, Tom Aloisi, Erica Garfin, Jim McQueston, Mark Provost, John Snell and Harris Webster

Others Present: Laura Biren and Corey Line

Public Comments

There were no comments from the general public.

Agenda

The members discussed and approved an agenda for the meeting.

Minutes

The members offered several corrections to the draft minutes, then approved the minutes of the meeting of July 28, 2015, as corrected.

National Life Drive

Erica Garfin provided an overview of various discussions held with regard to designating pedestrian and bike lanes on National Life Drive. She noted that this had culminated in an August 6, 2015 meeting between DPW representatives and interested parties at which outstanding issues were discussed and a proposed approach advanced.

Corey Line of DPW explained the proposed approach in detail and responded to questions from Committee members. In the discussion that followed, it was noted that this approach would be monitored and changes could be made in the future if it were determined to have any serious deficiencies. The members discussed how best to communicate the Committee's support for this approach to the City Council.

Greening America's Capitals Study

Eve Jacobs-Carnahan indicated that she had recently emailed the Greening America's study of Montpelier to the members. Corey Line noted that the study had determined that a traffic circle was not a viable option for the intersection of Barre Street and Main Street. He also indicated that the City was preparing to conduct its own very comprehensive study of that intersection, taking into account the needs of the various users (walkers, bikers, drivers) as well as the contemplated walkway to the new transit center. The goal would be to identify both short term and long term solutions with regard to that intersection.

Crosswalks

In response to a question from John Snell, Corey Line noted that the City planned to paint approximately twenty crosswalks this Fall in hopes of providing better visibility of the crosswalks through the winter months. He asked for the Committee's assistance in identifying priorities for crosswalk painting. He added that the City was developing a crosswalk database, and the members discussed how the Committee could assist the City in monitoring the condition of individual crosswalks to help the City make the best use of its database.

Projects Schedule

Corey Line provided an overview of upcoming street projects that could have implications for sidewalks and pedestrian issues.

Walk Friendly Designation

Erin Aguayo reported that she had accumulated a list of responses to the observations and feedback from the organization that reviewed Montpelier's application to be designated as a Walk Friendly Community. She will be communicating with that organization to discuss how best to go about making a new application.

We Walk Week

The Committee discussed the idea of organizing a We Walk Week series of walks for the Fall of 2015, and decided to go ahead with that project. Dates of October 3 – 11 were chosen for the walks. Members were requested to decide on walks they wanted to lead, or to ask others who might want to lead walks, with a response on walks and walk leaders to John Snell by September 7. Mark Provost agreed to coordinate the We Walk Week publicity. Erin Aguayo and Laura Biren agreed to work on a poster for the event.

Next Meetings

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for September 22. On September 15, those working on the We Walk Week event will get together to assess progress and assign tasks.