

Minutes of the
Montpelier Pedestrian Committee
Meeting of October 28, 2014

Members Present: Eve Jacobs-Carnahan, Anne Ferguson, Jim McQueston, and John Snell

Others Present: Bill Merrylees, and Hannah Reckhow

Agenda

The members discussed and approved an agenda for the meeting.

Minutes

The members approved the minutes of the meeting of September 23, 2014.

Feedback on the Walk Friendly Community Application

It was reported that the City's application for a "Walk Friendly Community" designation had been denied by the organization sponsoring that program. The members proceeded to discuss the comments on the application package which accompanied the denial, and the next steps for the Committee to take with regard to supporting the achievement of this designation for the City.

The members decided that since the City Council had made the achievement of this designation a core objective in the formation of the Committee, it would be appropriate to report back to the City Council about the denial and the Committee's intention to keep working on the application process. As part of its report to the City Council, the members felt it would also be appropriate to discuss the success of the Committee-sponsored We Walk Week activities in October.

With respect to the application process itself, the members decided they would like to seek clarification on some of the feedback received from the organization that reviewed the City's application. John Snell agreed to assemble comments and questions on the feedback, and the members were encouraged to promptly email their comments and questions to John.

We Walk Montpelier

It was estimated that 145 people took part in the Committee-sponsored We Walk Week series of guided walks in Montpelier from October 11 – 16. It was noted that an additional uncounted number of people enjoyed the Poetry StoryWalk at Kellogg Hubbard Library. Members described those participating in the walks as a real mix of folks from Montpelier, from Central Vermont, and from out of state.

After discussing their experience with the event, the members decided it was definitely worth repeating, and tentatively targeted May, 2015 for the next We Walk Week. A discussion on options available to publicize the event followed.

Park on the Perimeter

Bill Merrylees and the members discussed various ideas that had been proposed to provide for automobile parking on the perimeter of the City with options for parkers to walk, bike, or take mass transit into the City center.

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