

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

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

Others Present: Paul Carnahan, Bill Merrylees, Alex Prolman, Hannah Reckhow, and Jason Van Driesche

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of January 7, 2014 were approved.

Harris Webster

The members accepted, with regret, Harris Webster's notification that for personal reasons he would be unable to actively participate in Committee matters for the foreseeable future. The members noted Harris' significant contributions to pedestrian issues in Montpelier, and indicated that they looked forward to a time when he would again be in a position to rejoin the Committee.

Walk Friendly Community Application

Jason Van Driesche described the role that his organization, Local Motion, played in assisting Essex Junction and Burlington in the preparation of their respective applications for the Walk Friendly Community designation. He discussed conceptual approaches to consider in developing the message about the state of the pedestrian environment in Montpelier to be conveyed in the application. He noted that obtaining a bronze designation creates a strong platform for moving forward on planning and implementing improvements in the pedestrian environment. He responded to a question about the availability of grants to assist in the planning and implementing of those improvements.

Bill Merrylees and Jason Van Driesche discussed the opportunities for the Bike Committee and the Pedestrian Committee to collaborate on matters of joint interest.

Hannah Reckhow distributed a draft work plan for compiling Montpelier's Walk Friendly Community application. In the discussion that followed, topics covered included the items on the application where committee members could best provide assistance and the Bike Committee's experience in preparing its application for designation of Montpelier as a Bike Friendly Community.

Bike / Pedestrian Master Plan

Alex Prolman provided an update on the review process that will be used in connection with the Request for Proposal to hire a consultant to draft a “Montpelier in Motion Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan” that had been discussed at the January 7 meeting. He agreed to report back to the Committee when he had more information about the RFP results.