

**SOUTHERN WINDSOR COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Draft Meeting Minutes of August 28, 2019

A meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) was held at the Ascutney Outdoors Center in West Windsor at 6pm.

Attendance

TAC members present: Kristi Morris (Chair), Springfield; John Saydek, Cavendish; Arne Jonynas, Chester; Tom Kenyon, West Windsor; Sharon Bixby, Ludlow; Barbara Bye, member-at-large, Springfield; Amy Bell (Ex-Officio), VTrans.

Others present: Jason Rasmussen, SWCRPC; Shelley Seward, Ascutney Outdoors.

Kristi Morris opened the meeting at 6:00 pm

1. Introductions

Kristi Morris welcomed our new VTrans Planning Coordinator, Amy Bell. Introductions were made.

2. Changes to the Agenda

No changes to the agenda were made.

3. Overview of Ascutney Outdoors and the Ascutney Outdoors Center

Shelley Seward talked about the recent history of the town purchasing the ski area, and Ascutney Outdoors being established to operate the ski area and provide a diverse array of recreation and other opportunities, such as the after school program. The T-bar lift is being installed at this time. Once that is complete, they will have completed their five-year plan in two years.

4. Approval of Minutes

Tom Kenyon made a motion to approve the minutes of May 22, 2019. Seconded by Sharon Bixby. Approved unanimously.

5. Review of Outdoor Recreation Project

Jason Rasmussen provided an overview of the project, which is not yet complete. The three towns of Weathersfield, West Windsor and Windsor worked together to develop a plan to improve outdoor recreation and the outdoor recreation-based economy in the area. A number of projects have been identified. The SE Group's economic modeling helped to prioritize projects based on the anticipated economic impact. The most impactful projects include the trail-around-the-mountain, formalizing a trail network in Weathersfield, and developing a trail connecting downtown Windsor to Artisan's Park. The original concept for the Artisan's Park trail was to follow the river, but the current thinking follows existing trails/roads and the railroad corridor. The project steering committee is meeting soon to finalize the plan. A public meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

6. Receive Comments on Draft Active Transportation Plan

Jason Rasmussen presented the draft Active Transportation Plan, which will replace the Regional Bicycling and Walking Plan. Comments included:

- a. Add recreation to the vision statement.
- b. Add Church Street pedestrian improvements and possible bicycle improvements (Chester).
- c. The plan mentions a Chester village to high school sidewalk connection. Add a sidewalk connection from the other side of the village to the recreation area.

The plan will be revisited again at the next meeting, with a reminder given two weeks prior to the meeting.

6. Updates and Announcements

- a. Jason Rasmussen mentioned that the Okemo Valley Chamber of Commerce has established a transportation committee. They are working on a number of ideas including parking, public transit, ridesharing (e.g. Uber, Lyft), and excursion train expansions.
- b. Windsor received a Bicycle/Pedestrian grant to extend the sidewalk to Eddie's Place/Paradise Park.
- c. Transportation Climate Initiative Stakeholder Meeting: Sept. 24th at 9:30am, Comfort Inn, White River Junction
- d. New England Transportation Safety Conference: Oct. 28-29, Burlington

7. Other Business

- a. Tom Kenyon reported that the shuttle bus service that was used during the recent Ragnar event was very efficient.

8. Future agenda items & next meeting date

- a. Next meeting: 09.25.2019
- b. Agenda Topics:

9. Adjourn

- a. Sharon Bixby made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Tom Kenyon. Approved unanimously.
- b. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.