

Town of New London
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes June 19, 2025

Members Present: Russ Moore (Chairman), Emily Campbell (Vice-Chair), Erica Brown, Woody Canaday, Ed Condict, Donald Eberly, Judi Ferreira, Grant Smith

Also Attending: Putnam Kidder (Director NL Recreation Dept) and Liz Niehaus (Director Montessori School scheduled to be built on Main Street across from Library parking and Info Station), Bob Bower, resident

Call to Order and 04/24/2025 Meeting Minutes Review

Meeting was called to order by Russ Moore, Chair at 5:35PM. Russ thanked Putnam for setting up meeting recording apparatus and room. April 24 meeting minutes were accepted, seconded and unanimously approved.

Upcoming Activities:

Strawberry Festival June21

Putnam Kidder was recognized and thanked for inviting committee members to participate at the event. An informational handout regarding Mission Statement, purpose, and updates were prepared for distribution at a table to be manned by Ed Condict, Judi Ferreira, and Russ Moore. Grant Smith explained the kids' bike tune-up station to accompany the information table. It was stated that this was a great opportunity for public exposure for the committee's work. Putnam detailed the variety of activities for the day's event including vendors, an inflatable, music, lawn games, and of course, strawberry shortcake for purchase. An appreciation for the partnership between the BPAC, Recreation Department and Outing Club was acknowledged.

Russ shared two newly minted BPAC publications. The BPAC Bike-Tune Up Flyer for Strawberry Fest and a BPAC General Information flyer. The publications were well-received by Committee members. Woody Canady pointed out the general info flyer web link for more info to the Town office coordinator is not correctly presented. This error will be corrected on latter printings.

Walkable New London Update provided :

- to develop a plan with walkable routes downtown
- different approaches to develop a plan were discussed (not a substitute for sidewalk safety and repair)
- one goal is to integrate of CC trail heads that are in close proximity to downtown walking routes with signage directly walkers to trails.
- Russ reported that he and Mark Vernon (Conservation Committee) toured downtown and identified at least two at least two specific trail/street intersections which could be possible linkage points.

Liz Niehaus spoke in favor of the Walkable New London discussions. She shared ideas that would be pertinent to her planned school, including safe walking areas for the children enrolled, possible use of the proposed Way Station adjacent to the Chamber of Commerce Information booth. , and perhaps additional items in that area such as picnic tables, posted maps of the walking trails, as well as biking routes.

Next steps:

A conceptual plan for this space will need to be presented to the planning committee. Included would be a proposed way station for walking routes. There is a need to generate public discussion. Don Eberly suggested integrating the garden club in any landscape design.

Continued Trail Discussion:

- identification of areas to open access near existing trails
- integration of trails and walkable routes
- Russ will meet with the town archivist re: previous study done by Colby-Sawyer (walking routes in New London)

Sidewalk Discussion:

- plan to meet with Planning Board
- repair schedule not known
- due to heavy traffic around Seamen Rd at Main St. there was a question about possible lights
- one way traffic on the most congested section of Main St was mentioned (right turn only from Artisans to Spring ledge)
- need to reduce hazards while improving sidewalks
- Grant suggested attending a Public Works meeting to provide feedback.
- Bob Bowers reported that he discussed with Sam Clark adding a crosswalk close to the fire station. Main Street is state road Rt.114 so any modifications require NHDOT approval.

Multi-purpose Trail Update:

There has been good progress with Colby-Sawyer, including meetings with administration. The next step is to meet with the new president. A proposed trail network may include one portion of the existing CSC Cross Country running trail. Once all approvals are secure trail clearing and preparation will be conducted by volunteers including possibly Conservation Commission volunteers.

Next meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2025 at 5pm at Whipple Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith Ferreira