



## NEWBURYPORT LIVABLE STREETS

**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 4, 2024 – 7:00 pm**  
**Senior Community Center**

- **Welcome / Introductions**

Members present: Rick Taintor, Sheila Taintor, Chris Cunningham, Carolyn Layzer, Alden Clark, Judy Tymon, Ben Iacono, Eric Tracey, Neil He, Jared Hubbard (on Zoom)

Visitors: Art Carrier, Paul Swindlehurst, Susan Bernhard, Kristin Hunter

- **Approval of April Meeting Minutes – [NLS 2024-04-02 Meeting Notes.docx](#)**

Moved by Judy, seconded by Alden, voted unanimously

- **Walk Audits**

Low Street (Toppans to Rail Trail)

- Eric presented the [Walk Audit Summary](#) and draft recommendations
- Discussion of other ways to make Low St better: Wayne's corridor study, additional driveway to Middle School; incentives to reduce single-vehicle pickups. How many are taking the school buses? How can we incentivize bus use? (Eliminate/reduce bus fees)

Location(s) for next Walk Audit

- Three options were considered:
  - Merrimac St at Kent St to Park Lunch
  - Storey Ave/Low St – fits with advocating with City for overall Storey Ave; and developers looking at Low Street
  - Turkey Hill/KinderCare/Fire Station/Cherry Hill fields: Crosswalk needed across Storey Ave. Eric is making a questionnaire for neighborhood residents and will share what he's come up with at next meeting. Would like that segment of Storey Ave to be redesigned for walking/cycling as well as cars. Add this as a project – Jared and Susan are interested.
- It was agreed to select Low St/Storey Ave for the next walk audit. Eric will coordinate. Date will be added to the Resiliency Calendar.

- **[Low Street Committee Report Out](#)**

Bonnie presented her report on the May 21 working group meeting (link above).

At the May 22 public meeting re: Low/N. Atkinson/Colby Farm Lane intersection, Wayne Amaral explained that lowering the speed limit on Low Street would require the City to petition MassDOT to rescind the special speed regulation.

Rick reported on the 6/3 site walk with Andy Port, Joe Teixeira and Charter School staff and consultants to discuss their campus planning. The school's preferred option is to add an entrance from Low Street into the back of the property to better manage internal vehicle circulation. This may lengthen the afternoon queue as far as the driveway to the Recreation Youth Center.

- **Fundraising Strategy Working Group Report Out**

Chris: NLS can serve as a conduit for public opinion/frustration about walking/cycling.

Have more surveys or public outreach or feature what we do in the Daily News more often.

Judy discussed Salisbury doing a bike bus to school.

Judy proposed having a vision/statement about what kind of environment do we want to have in Newburyport – what kind of safe walking/cycling/transit do we want to have? In order to get to that vision of a safe environment, the share of car trips has to go down, and the share of bike and walking trips has to go way up. Shift the mode share.

Paul: how do we accomplish this through fundraising? He talked about two examples of community events that were also fundraising; lantern festival, screening room fundraiser for new equipment.

How do we take the bike rides and turn that into a fundraising event?

Alden: Why did we become a 501(c)(3)? What are our goals?

We've had events – did we accomplish our goals with those events? Was there any follow-up with City Councilors? Did it change minds?

We need a champion from the City to accomplish some of our goals, so we need to develop relationships with city staff.

Judy: We need to work more on our vision and big ideas, and connect to bigger things like climate change.

Need more meetings to make more progress on fundraising ideas.

Jared: Make it easy to donate for our events.

Chris: Let people buy T-shirts on the website.

Art: Need people to think big, but it's hard when you're focused on the details

Susan: Look to Mass Cultural Council for grants for events like the Moonlight Ride?

Eric: Start with small T-shirt test sale and use lessons to refine for the Moonlight Ride shirts.

- **[Bike Share Planning Group Update](#)**

Sheila presented a report on progress to date (link above). Three working groups: funding, system design (station locations), and city project development (coordination with Mayor and city staff).

- **[2024 Work Plan](#)** (includes links to Project Summaries)

No discussion on this

- **Other Business**

- No July Meeting due to conflict with July 4 holiday.

- Bike Rodeo – Bonnie has been in touch with Safe Routes to School who are

interested in helping out with another bike rodeo. She will be looking for a few people to help out. Date to be determined.

- New Logo – Rick presented the proposed updated logo designs. It was agreed to replace the car with a bus.

Adjourn at 8:50

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**Next Meetings - August 6, September 3**

*[After this meeting it was decided via email to switch meetings from the 1st Tuesday to the 4th Tuesday of each month. Therefore, the next meetings will be July 23, August 27, and September 24.]*