



NEWBURYPORT LIVABLE STREETS

Meeting Minutes February 25, 2025 – 7:00 pm Senior Community Center – Boardroom

- Welcome / Introductions
 - Attendance: Alden Clark, Chris Cunningham, Liz Fabel, Jared Hubbard, Carolyn Layzer, Judy Sharkey, Bonnie Sontag, Rick Taintor, Sheila Taintor, Eric Tracey, Judy Tymon
- Approval of January Meeting Minutes – [NLS 2025-01-28 Meeting Minutes.docx](#)
 - Motion by Chris C, second by Liz F, approved unanimously
- Treasurer's Report –
 - Alden presented the February 2025 treasurer's report

Starting balance, 1/1/25:	\$4,929.82
Income:	
- Donations:	<u>\$20.53</u>
Expenses:	
- Bank fees	<u>\$5.01</u>
Ending balance, 2/5/25:	\$5,127.34
- Restricted:	\$3,500.00
- Unrestricted:	\$1,627.34
- Grassroots Fund Grow Grant
 - Current draft application - Rick described, due March 20th; \$4000 (had gotten a \$1000 seed grant in 2018); purpose is to build capacity in the organization. Hiring a p/t volunteer event coordinator...to help with organizing meetings, doing outreach, event promotion, logistics - aimed at college students (so, posting at various local colleges) / \$1800 (@\$25/hour, 3 hours/week, 24 weeks). And a student intern (@\$15/hour) organizing small projects / \$240; + materials 4 events at \$400 per event, 2 hours/week, 10 weeks)
 - Discussion: Liz, Bonnie mentioned advantage of recruiting young people; Liz: Purpose is also to take burden off leadership...but would still need oversight. Each member has interests and projects, so whoever is in charge of the project, would have supervision. Rick: Could also help do outreach - especially if they would do newsletters.
 - Demographic survey - many members have completed; Rick urged people to complete; group discussed ways we could do outreach to make our group more diverse. Schools are one way to expand our reach. Bonnie mentioned a contact who would be willing to ride the bus with students.

- Green Expo – Sunday, May 18, 1:00-4:00 pm - at Bresnahan & Senior Center and all areas between. Funded to City's Resiliency Committee - 3-yr grant (this is last year).
 - Invited to have a table there. Coastal Trails will as well. It's a showcase for environmentally oriented businesses. There will be an electric vehicle expo, MVPC, and any other nonprofit related to climate change, etc. Maybe e-bikes.
 - Free but need to reserve a ticket on Eventbrite.
 - See flyer on shared drive.
- Winter sidewalk clearing - lots of sidewalks in the city that people weren't clearing. This project was to report them to the city, but NLS never sent the reports on.
 - Survey form on website - not used between Feb. '22 and 1st week of January this year. 6-8 responses
 - Identify champion or discontinue?
 - Jared suggests we put this on the agenda for October and then come up with a more effective approach and someone delegated to report. Maybe do it after each big storm instead of ongoing. Shovel audits?
 - This discussion morphed into the bike lane discussion below.
 - Action: Temporarily take down the page.
- Project Updates
 - Sheila: Bike Share Vendor Selection: Evaluation committee (Sheila, Eric, Wayne Amaral (DPS Director), Tom Watkins (City Chief Procurement Officer), Christian Cyr (Chief of Staff), Patrick Reed (MVPC) met to review vendor proposals. Decided to interview 2 vendors: Tandem Mobility and Drop Mobility (Colony was eliminated). Interviews will be next Thursday, March 6. One vendor said once contract is signed (MassDOT has to approve), program can be up & running 8 weeks later. Tandem usually does smaller programs (e.g., Harrisburg), Drop usually does e-bikes and larger programs. On 2/27 Finance & Budget Committee will be reviewing the 5 orders for the grants NLS has received for this. If approved by April 1, program could start June 1.
 - Bonnie: Bike Rodeo - Andy and Youth Services has no programs to coordinate it with, will do registration, need to check with Molin/Nock about using the playground area - maybe after Easter, after school, possibly Thursday (but will check with schools). Jared will coordinate with RVS to see whether they can coordinate around early release day (every other Weds) - or make sure it's not an early release day. Jared also has a kid at IC (which has same schedule as public school). Bonnie already spoke with MassBike & they can do it. She wants to check with instructor who did it last time - he was really good - see if he could come again.
 - Bonnie: Adult Bike Rodeo - New Belgium Brewing Co. offers grants (March 1st application available online, closes on 31st). MassBike Galen Mook (director) gave Bonnie some numbers - instructor hours, clinic + ride? or just clinic? They can provide \$10/bike light front-back pairs, bells ~\$7/each. Get letter of support from Rec & Youth Services, maybe also Council on Aging. Liz offered to help review
 - Alden: Crosswalk project deferred after snow covered most of sidewalks then will pull it together.
 - Eric: Does anyone have a contact with Council on Aging. Meet once a month,

during the day. Jared has spoken with them. interested in: Outride grant - focus on underprivileged youth & seniors.

- Chris: Parks Commissioner Anita Greenwood asked about signage...for updating the kiosk maps (Coastal Trails related, not bike share) - they only show Phase 1 (initial rail trail).
- Eric: Met with mayor, and presented the slides on the West Side No Sidewalks. He was very supportive.
- MVPC Updates
 - none
- Other Business
 - Bike lanes: discussion about trying to get an ordinance prohibiting parking in bike lanes (first get bike lanes designated as such, then legal prohibition) - Making High Street bike lanes official. Jared said he will talk to Ben Harmon.
 - Start a bike rack project (Eric) to put one at either side of the crosswalk in front of Nu Kitchen and Inn Street.

Judy motioned to adjourn, Chris seconded, unanimously approved

Next Meetings – March 25 / April 22 / May 27 (Annual Meeting)