

**Approved as written**  
**BIKE PATH COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**September 13, 2023**  
**9:00 AM**  
**Jamestown Town Hall**  
**93 Narragansett Ave.**

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 9:02am and the following members were present: Samira Hakki, Jeremy Collie, John Hammel, Joyce Antonello, Rip Smith, Lisa Bryer and Jean Lambert. Also present: Carrie Kolb. Not present: Steve Enberg, Julie Kallfelz, and Erik Brine.

**II. Approval of Minutes – Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote**

A motion to approve the minutes from the May 26, 2023 meeting as written was moved by Collie and seconded by Lambert. All in favor.

A motion to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2023 meeting as written/amended was moved by Bryer and seconded by Lambert. All in favor.

**III. Jamestown Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan - Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote**

**1. Consultant Recommendation for Master Plan**

Bryer sent a RFP to four companies. Three companies sent responses in. She compiled a consultant matrix, which includes the Jamestown Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan scope.

Last week, Bryer got an email from RI Division of Statewide Planning that there are opportunities to apply for a technical assistance grant, which will hire a consultant to support the community. One of the criteria is for “safety improvements for pedestrians and bicyclists” and Jamestown meets the criteria. Applications are due by October 2, 2023 and the grants will be awarded on October 17, 2023.

Discussion ensued regarding the Town of Jamestown applying for a technical assistance grant. Applying for the grant will save the Town from having to pay the full amount of the consultant costs because it is only a 20% match for the Town. The Town does not have a huge capital budget and most of the work on the Bike Path will be completed with grants. The State runs the

project and awards the contract with input from the Town. This would set the committee back about 4-5 months due to the change in process. The scope of work done would need to be increased because the Town would need to address more walkability and handicap access. Bryer said that she would apply for about \$50,000 to include walkability and handicap access in the scope. We will know by the next committee meeting if the Town is selected for a technical assistance grant.

A motion moved by Lambert and seconded by Hakki that the Town apply for a technical assistance grant with focus on the bicycle and pedestrian master plan. All in favor.

Bryer said that if the Town does not receive a grant, then she would like to hire a consultant based on the matrix. The matrix was reviewed and the committee determined that Beta Group should be hired if a grant is not awarded.

A motion was moved by Bryer and seconded by Hammel to award Beta Group the consulting contract if technical assistance grant is not awarded. All in favor.

## 2. SWOT Analysis – Further discussion

Discussion ensued for the next steps for the committee. The committee will keep working on background information. The committee will look at the island overall for walkability, handicapped accessibility and vegetation along right of way. Walkability is the next step. Bryer will come up with the mapping, sections and send assignments around to the committee.

### Miscellaneous:

Hakki asked if there is a budget to sending someone to the National Bike Summit for the The League of American Bicyclists in Washington DC in March 2024?

Hakki still trying to get a 4-mile ride scheduled with members of the Town Council. Brine has committed to joining the ride. Hakki is trying to get a pedicab that can bring two members around.

Hakki went to Bridge & Turnpike Authority meeting with Bari Freeman of Bike Newport. Freeman did a quick presentation and talked about bicycling across the Mount Hope Bridge. The new director at Bridge and Turnpike Authority put up signs with no biking across Mount Hope Bridge. The signs were dangerous because drivers become more aggressive towards bicyclists, and they were taken town. Bridge and Turnpike Authority has Bluetooth receivers across the Newport bridge. They can tell how fast drivers are going and how many cars go across the bridge.

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse has put in a request for \$1.5 million for a study of biking across Newport and Jamestown bridges.

Hakki asked about the DOT permeable pavement project. Is it an opportunity to ask about striping? Can they trim the vegetation? Antonello asked if the Town can remove the vegetation? Bryer said that it is a state road.

**IV. Future Meetings – Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote**

The next meeting is Wednesday, October 25 at 9:00am.

**V. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn at 9:56am was moved by Hakki and seconded by Hammel. All in favor.