



**Amherst Bicycle & Pedestrian  
Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes - APPROVED  
May 9, 2023

1 Meeting attendees: Chris Buchanan, Wendy Rannenberg, Judy Shenk, Chris Shenk, Rick  
2 Katzenberg.

3  
4 **Site walk with the Nashua Regional Planning Commission:** obtaining data from  
5 multimodal counters

6  
7 The Committee met at 6:30pm on Spaulding Common to walk the Amherst side path with  
8 Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) members. The group discussed how to  
9 obtain data from the multimodal counters.

10  
11 *The Committee took a brief recess to reconvene at Town Hall.*

12  
13 Meeting attendees: Chris Buchanan, Wendy Rannenberg, Judy Shenk, Chris Shenk, Rick  
14 Katzenberg, Steve Lutz – Conservation Commission representative, and Peter Lyon – Board  
15 of Selectmen Ex-Officio.  
16 Staff present: Eric Slosek – DPW Director (remote), Kristan Patenaude – Recording Secretary  
17 (remote)

18  
19 Chris Buchanan called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

20  
21 **1. April 11, 2023 Minutes –** *The Board took up this item at this time.*

22  
23 **Wendy Rannenberg moved to approve the meeting minutes of April 11, 2023, as**  
24 **written. Seconded by Chris Shenk.**

25 **Vote: 5-0-0, motion carried unanimously.**

26  
27 **2. Baboosic Greenway project**

- 28
  - **Bean Foundation**
  - 29 • **ARPA**
  - 30 • **Fundraising**

31  
32 Chris Buchanan explained that the Bean Foundation is considering donating \$70,000 to the  
33 Town for the Baboosic Greenway project. The intention is for this to form a portion of the  
34 Town's local match for CMAQ and State 10 Year Plan funding, which will occur between  
35 2025-2029. This funding would allow for an extension of the side path and rail trail from  
36 Courthouse Road to Walnut Hill Road. A private philanthropist in Town is still interested in  
37 funding this, as long as another donor is involved. The philanthropist previously stated that

May 9, 2023

APPROVED

s/he would match whatever the other donor commits. If this is true, that could mean approximately \$140,000 toward the main goal to raise \$475,000 in the next many years.

Rick Katzenberg stated that he spoke to the Community Foundation which is more than happy to accept the Committee's projects and be a pipeline for the funds that are received. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3). The Foundation will help with the accounting of the funds but will not raise the funds or manage the projects for the Committee.

Chris Buchanan explained that the matching funds are to access \$1.9M in State funding. He noted that the Heritage Commission has invited the Committee to its meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm to discuss the Baboosic Greenway project and potentially building a "train station" in the area. Chris Buchanan explained that he has also been discussing with the Conservation Commission renaming the B&M trail to the Baboosic Greenway in order to make this project idea more tangible.

Chris Buchanan explained that the Committee submitted a grant application to the County for 100% ARPA funding to build a sidepath between Boston Post Road and Courthouse Road and extend the sidepath into Milford. There is no update on this item.

### **3. AMS/SHS School Campus Project**

- **FY 2024 Congressionally Designated Funding Update**
- **VHB Preliminary Engineering**

Chris Buchanan explained that the received word from Senator Shaheen's Office that the Committee's request for funding from the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee has been submitted. This project would include a sidepath around Souhegan High School and a bridge across the Souhegan River. The cost is approximately \$3.1M. There will be an update on this funding in July.

Regarding VHB, Chris Buchanan explained that preliminary engineering has been completed for the same project. This was submitted to Senator Shaheen's Office for the application. A separate preliminary engineering report that does not include the bridge will also be submitted to the Committee.

Eric Slosek, DPW Director, recommended using the existing Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) for the expenses for the VHB bill. This is an eligible expense. The Committee agreed with endorsing this recommendation.

### **4. RTP Grant Opportunity**

Chris Buchanan explained that RTP is a State-managed trail microgrant. This is an 80/20 local match grant. He suggested the possibility of using some excess funding leftover at the end of the year in the DPW budget toward this microgrant. This funding could be used for easement

May 9, 2023

APPROVED

work, trail clearing, or survey work. Eric Slosek suggested seeking some proposals and quotes in order to potentially move this forward at the end of the fiscal year.

**5. April 11, 2023 Minutes**

*This item was previously addressed.*

**6. Other business**

It was noted that Mobycon will be presenting feedback from its Village streets study at the upcoming Board of Selectmen meeting on Monday the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Chris Buchanan noted that the Committee held a site walk on the Amherst Street sidepath earlier this evening. He noted that he saw 12 people walking past during that time. NRPC will collect the data from the machines and set up an account for the Town to take over for data collecting purposes. This data will regularly be posted on the NRPC website.

**7. The Committee will enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II, (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community**

**Wendy Rannenberg moved enter into a Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II, (d), for Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community. Seconded by Rick Katzenberg.**

**Roll Call Vote: Buchanan – aye; Rannenberg – aye; Judy Shenk – aye; Chris Shenk – aye; and Katzenberg - aye. 5-0-0, motion carried unanimously.**

*Respectfully submitted,  
Kristan Patenaude*