*Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee members in attendance were: Chris Buchanan; Carolyn Mitchell; Patrick Daniel; George Bower; Porter Dodge;*

*Staff in attendance included: Simon Corson, Planner*

 **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **2019 Road Construction Modifications**

Chris Buchanan called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

On July 22nd, the Amherst Select Board’s adopted the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee’s report *Amherst Multimodal Master Plan*. The Select Board put forward the following motion that passed unanimously.

“…to accept the Amherst Multimodal Master Plan, as presented by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee. This plan contains ideas and concepts which may be used as a guide for future roadway and trail projects, providing a multimodal network for pedestrians and bicyclists in Amherst. Furthermore, we ask the committee to work with our DPW Director to review both our Road Standards used by developers and our current road projects and come back to the Board of Selectmen with specific recommendations for consideration.”

Following the motion, Mr. Buchanan has met with Public Works Department Director Eric Hahn to discuss 2019 road construction plans.

 **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Public Meeting**

Mr. Buchanan stated that a public meeting will be held on Thursday, September 19th at 7pm at Souhegan High School to present the *Amherst Multimodal Master Plan* to residents. During the public meeting, Mr. Buchanan intends to collaborate with Mr. Hardner to make a presentation. The Public Works Department will put out the sign boards alerting the public of the meeting. Mr. Corson offered to administer a smartphone-enabled survey so attendees can provide feedback to the Committee. The reasoning for a smartphone-enabled survey is to include attendees that may be uncomfortable speaking in front of a large group but have valuable feedback to share.

## Bike Rack Placement

Mr. Corson explained that the Public Works Department has agreed to purchase and install a bike rack at Town Hall. Mr. Katzenberg mentioned that some residents may be interested in donating bike racks for Town facilities. The group conversed about how the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee could work with private and public partners to increase the number of bike parking facilities in the community. The group identified locations for bike racks as all schools, Upper Wilkins Field, Town Hall, Baboosic Town Beach, Peabody Mill Environmental Center, Davis Lane Tennis Courts, Ponemah Bog Wildlife Refuge, and other parks and trailheads.

## Roadside Implementation Discussion

There was discussion about roadside implementation with special attention given to ongoing road projects such as Merrimack Road.

## Off-Road Implementation Discussion

## Mr. Buchanan shared that there are ongoing conversations with the Amherst Conservation Commission regarding off-road implementation. The two groups are developing a list of off-road ideas, often referring to earlier reports. The Conservation Commission has established Trail Standards and has received a grant of 10,000 dollars from the Milford Rotary Club to build a trail that provides an assessible route for the public to enjoy. While not suited for wheelchair travel, the trail is intended for an audience that would include senior citizens and young children. The Conservation Commission has sought the assistance of a company that specializes in trail development. The company will use a small machine to remove large obstacles and maintain a consistent trail width.

##

## Regional Bicycle/ Pedestrian meeting at NRPC

Several Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee members are involved with the Nashua Region Complete Streets Advisory Committee. During these regional meetings, it has been agreed that having a meeting where bordering communities get together to discuss best practices for multimodal infrastructure planning and potential intermunicipal connections.

There was discussion about when, and where these types of meetings should take place. Mr. Katzenberg asked if the Nashua Regional Planning Commission might be suited to host such meetings. It was stated that the Amherst Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee is interested and there would be further discuss at the next regional meeting.

The next Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee is September 18th at 6pm in the Brick School Meeting Room.

*The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Simon Corson