

WALK! BIKE! BROCKPORT!
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 27, 2015
4:00 – 5:00 PM
Village Hall, Brockport, NY

Present:

Ed Lehman, Merrill Melnick, Alicia Fink, Richard and Joan Fenton, Bill Andrews, Mike Schaffer, Barb Canham, Sam Tanner, Pam Ketchum, Pamela Haibach, Emory Morris and Ray Duncan

1. Letter of Invitation from the Brockport Merchants Association (BMA)

The BMA has invited Walk Bike Brockport (WBB) to become a member of its group with an annual fee of \$ 50.00 for the membership. Following discussion of this invitation—keeping in mind that WBB is a non profit organization—it was decided that WBB would offer to send a representative (Pam Ketchum) to attend BMA meetings, and suggest that BMA have one of its members attend WBB meetings. It would be in BMA's interest to do so, given how WBB projects stimulate business in Brockport. In this proposed arrangement, no membership dues would be involved.

2. Updates on Three Current projects:

- **Village of Brockport & Walk Bike Brockport's Active Transportation Plan for Biking and Pedestrian Traffic in the Greater Brockport area.** The Active Transportation project—facilitated by a \$50,000.00 grant from Monroe County's Genesee Transportation Council—featured an "Open House" on Thursday, April 9th from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM at the Brockport Village Hall, 49 Main Street, Brockport, N.Y. This well-attended event provided the opportunity for the public to weigh in on how, and in what ways, safe community-oriented pedestrian and biking traffic can be improved in the greater Brockport area (that includes the towns of Sweden and Clarkson, the Central School District and parts of the SUNY-College at Brockport campus). Tom Robinson, project leader from Barton & Loguidice consulting firm organized this public meeting via a number of large posters representing the projects progress to date. The next "Open House" will be held sometime this summer.

This update was followed by a brief discussion of some of the obvious areas of walking and biking concerns, i.e. pedestrian crossing into Wegmans from Rt 19; Routes 31 & 19 intersection; need for a sidewalk to Wal-Mart from the Route 31 & 19 intersection; high speed traffic on Redman Road with no safe walking or biking paths; need for sidewalks &

biking lanes in Sweden Village; Brockport's Main Street Bridge by the Canal Path and numerous other problem areas.

- **WBB's Participation in SUNY-College at Brockport's North Campus Renovation Project.** This project, which will renovate below and above ground infrastructure systems, includes improved bicycle facilities and pedestrian walkways. The North campus is defined as the area from the railroad tracts to the canal and from Utica Street to Commencement Drive. Mayor Margay Blackman, Ray Duncan and Sam Tanner participate in Renovation Project meetings, advocating especially for attention to biking issues.
- **SUNY-College at Brockport as a "Bicycle Friendly University."** WBB has been active in helping to promote SUNY-College at Brockport as a nationally recognized "Bicycle Friendly University." Toward that end Tom Robinson, Ray Duncan and Sam Tanner recently met with Scott Haines, Director of SUNY-Brockport's Special Events Recreation Center. Haines pointed out that he has just purchased 40 new bicycles that will become part of the College's bicycle sharing program. Robinson provided information on how to apply for "Bicycle Friendly" national recognition and Haines plans to put that process in motion.

3. **New SUNY-College at Brockport Student Members.**

- Sam Tanner, from SUNY-Brockport's Department of Political Science, is a new Walk Bike Brockport member, completing a 3-credit Internship under the direction of Professor Susan Orr. He has been extremely active and of enormous help to our many projects. In addition, Sam is the new SUNY-Brockport Student Vice-President elect.
- Prof. Orr has identified a new Intern from the Department of Political Science to work in Mayor Blackman's office and with WBB for the Fall Semester: Mr. Scott Meyers.

4. **Upcoming WBB Events:**

- New York's FANY riders will camp in Brockport's Fireman's Exempt fields located on West Avenue on Sunday, July 12. Walk Bike helps Firemen's Exempt members serve a spaghetti dinner around 5:00 PM.
- The annual Buffalo to Albany 400 mile bicycle ride along the Erie Canal will bring riders to Brockport on Monday, July 13th. WBB has its tradition of meeting at the Main Street Bridge on that Monday morning

to pass out water and watermelon—along with a hearty welcome to Brockport and what it has to offer riders. This year WBB will have postcards available to riders. The idea is for riders to send themselves or someone else a postcard to remind themselves of our famous historic village where life is good. The Village of Brockport will cover the cost of the postcards and postage. Lori Skoog is producing the new postcards, which will show the WBB logo.

Volunteers for the Monday, July 13th, Erie Canal Bike Ride greeters include Alicia Fink, Merrill Melnick and Ed Lehman to organize the tent and post card tables. Alicia Fink will look into the possibility of providing watermelon.

5. Other Business

- Mike Schaffer moved that WBB donate \$ 100.00 to the Morgan Manning House to help in renovating its staircase. Motion passed.
- Mike Schaeffer suggested (a) we send our minutes to Pam Ketchum, so they might be included in Pro-Brockport's Facebook page; (b) modify the minutes into an article for the Penny Saver or Suburban News; (c) make sure upcoming meetings are identified in the Village of Brockport web site.
- Joan Fenton reminded members that the New York State Summer Games, Special Olympics, are coming to Brockport, June 5-7, 2015. Volunteers are needed. For more information and to register online, visit: www.specialolympicsny.org
- Mike Schaffer reminded the group that Friday, May 1st, is the "First Friday" meeting at SUNY-Brockport's Alumni House.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:30 PM
MINUTES RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY
Raymond Duncan
Chairperson, Walk! Bike! Brockport!

