

**Pelham Active Transportation Committee
Minutes**

Wednesday, Sep 16, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Location: via teleconference

Attendance: Bea Clark (Chair), Brian Baty (Vice Chair), Lisa Gallant (recorder), Rhys Evans, Bob Fish, Dave Nicholson, Barbara Rybiak, Councillor John Wink, Regional Councillor Diana Huson. Staff: Jason Marr, Tolga Aydin
Regrets: N/A

1. Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum

Declaring that a quorum was present, Chair Clark called the meeting to order.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Two additional items were added: Letter to the Editor, September 16, 2020 and Globe and Mail article, September 16, 2020

Moved by: B. Baty

Seconded by: B. Fish

THAT the agenda for the Sep 15, 2020 meeting be adopted as amended.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

Bea declared that she will be assisting Town staff as they prepare proposals for the ICIP-COVID 19 stream.

4. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: B. Fish

Seconded by: B. Rybiak

THAT the minutes from June 16, 2020 meeting be approved.

Carried

6. Business Arising from Minutes – June 16, 2020

6.1 Review of AT Master Plan and presentation to Council

Members reviewed the final ATMP review document and the presentation to Council. Bea will now submit the delegation request to the Clerk.

6.2 PATC 2020 budget update

Members discussed the 2020 budget allocation which included funds for events and the reprinting of the cycling map. Members agreed that the map should be

reprinted with some modifications, if possible. The funds for the conference and for events will not be required this year due to the pandemic restrictions.

6.3 Additional questions for C. Ryall

Update provided by email. Bob provided additional information regarding the timing of signals, including a reference to FHWA safety recommendations and a short video of pedestrian signal at Highway 20 and Station Street. This information will be forwarded to Carolyn Ryall.

6.4 Ideas to sustain community and Council interest in AT – Trails and Trail Development

Dave proposed advocacy to extend the trail network with more connected trails to destinations such as the MCC i.e., to identify our objectives (destinations to connect to) and routes with loops to meet those objectives including signage, complete mapping, access to facilities such as washrooms and maintenance. This could include paved trails and unpaved trails that could be better connected.

Action:

- Small group to form to come up with some recommendations (Members to include Dave and Brian)
- If successful in obtaining a GIS position, the Town's new GIS person could work with this information to map existing trail assets
- Trail improvements could be referenced in the new grant opportunity

6.5 Rescheduled presentations

- Update re NR Niagara Cycling Clubs Alliance review of Share the Road Feedback – October 20, 2020
- 2021 Canada Games have been postponed until 2022. Will delay presentation
- Joint meeting with Thorold and Welland AT Committees – November 17, 2020

6.6 Pelham Street Reconstruction project

Jason reported on the progress of this reconstruction project. Phase 1 from College Street S. to Port Robinson is out for tender with a hope to start before year end and end by Spring 2021. The engineering drawings will be available to the public on the Town's website. Phase 2 past John Street is part of 2021 capital budget ask and will include new cycling lanes. Phase 2 will include improvements to the intersection in front of the school and the crossing at John Street. This design should be complete this calendar year with tendering in Spring 2021. These Phase 2 plans will go to PATC and Glynn A Green's Active School Travel committee for input in November/December 2020. With Council's approval, Phase 3 and 4 design work will move forward next year.

6.7 Steve Bauer Trail Paving Update

Work is underway and paving should occur next week followed by landscaping. PATC would like to see a celebration of the trail reopening. Jason will work with communications to make this happen, ensuring physical distancing requirements.

6.8 Kunda Park development plans and site visit

Site visit completed with PATC members and consultants to discuss concerns that were put forward. Namely:

- There is a concern about a plan to reduce the thickness of the vegetative wall along the trail to allow for more development. The tree preservation plan will be a component of the draft plan approval process.
- There is an additional concern about plans for two roads that will cross the Steve Bauer Trail. The crossings are required by Planning to increase connectivity within the divisions and reduce congestion.

A public meeting is scheduled for October 13 where further input can be provided as individual citizens.

7 Committee Events and Reports

7.1 Summerfest

No update

7.2 Senior's Advisory Committee

8 No update

8.1 Active School Travel

Lisa to provide PATC with table showing infrastructure items raised at school walkabouts. Jason and Lisa to discuss updates to infrastructure items.

Jason noted delays in repainting of line markings due to redeployment of Niagara Regional staff who are responsible for painting the markings for the Town. The Town is looking at contracting with a different source to complete those paintings.

Action: Bea to include a program highlight report with the minutes.

9 New Business

8.1. PATC Budget Request 2021

Members agree that projects that did not move forward due to funding limitations should be requested again:

- Wayfinding Signage
- Fonthill /Thorold Spur
- Canboro Road reconstruction and removal of rumble strips

In addition, the members discussed the need for operating funds to cover costs of community events, some modest printing and the development of an app for Pelham's trails and routes.

Moved by: B. Fish

Seconded by: R. Evans

THAT the PATC make a 2021 budget request for items noted above.

Carried

8.2. Funding opportunities

- **Healthy Communities Fund** – Federal funds available to non-profit groups. This may be of interest to groups in our community, such as the Rotary Club, who want to further the Fonthill/Thorold Spur or other trail developments. They would be looking for our support and the support of the Town to proceed with this proposal. Details of this fund have not been released by the Federal Government yet. Bea will suggest that Rotary reach out to the Thorold and Welland clubs as well.
- **ICIP- COVID-19 Stream.** – This new funding stream was announced with details to follow. Eligible projects must be completed by Dec 2021. The intent is to make communities more COVID resilient e.g. retrofits in buildings, distancing barriers, AT infrastructure, tree planting. Town staff are discussing potential projects. PATC asked to consider what we would like to see put forward. Any plans will need to be part of the 2021 capital budget which is being approved in October.

We could put forward past projects that did not move forward due to funding limitations:

- Signage
- Rumble Strips
- Fonthill Thorold Spur

Action: Bea will send PATC members an email requesting everyone's top three ideas, which she will pass on to Jason

- **MTO – Road Safety Community Partnership program.** Due October 9. In the past we have accessed this fund to promote road safety. Members agreed that we should apply. Bea and Lisa will work on an application with input from Rhys and Barb.

8.4 Trout Unlimited Presentation re Sulphur Springs Road

This group has asked to attend the October PATC meeting to discuss trail development and protection for this wetland area. Given the state of planned work on this roadway, the PATC recommends they first speak directly with Jason Marr, Director, Public Works.

Action: Bea will contact Trout Unlimited to communicate the committee's recommendation.

8.5 Timing of pedestrian signals

Bob showed a video showing timing of the pedestrian signal on HWY 20 and Station St (adjacent to St. Alexander). The timing of these lights is controlled by the Region. If a pedestrian pushes the button after the light turns green, the pedestrian needs to wait a full cycle i.e. until the next green light for traffic before they are given a green pedestrian signal.

Action: Bea will forward a copy of the video to Carolyn Ryall via email and cc Councillor Huson. She will include reference to previous discussions about this intersection from St Alexander school's walkabout.

8.6 Open Letter in the Voice of Pelham

Members noted the letter (attached) to the PATC in the September 16, 2020 edition of the Voice of Pelham. Committee members would like to invite the author, Craig Edwards, to attend the PATC meeting to further discuss items noted in his submission to the Voice.

Action: Bea to contact C. Edwards to extend the invitation.

8.7 Globe and Mail article – Barb -deferred

9.0 Adjournment

Moved by: R. Evans

Seconded by: B. Rybiak

THAT the meeting of PATC Committee be adjourned until the next meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Upcoming meetings 2020

November 17, 2020

December 15, 2020

Upcoming Meetings, 2021

January 19

February 16 (check for conflict)

March 16

April 20

May 18

June 15