



**Holyoke Biking & Pedestrian Committee Meeting  
August 1, 2022 Minutes**

Attendance: Shannon Bliven, Chair

Price Armstrong, Ileana Carrion (OPED staff), Kristen Sykes, Christine Berge (Secretary)

Public Participation: Nathan, Lucy (of Safe Routes to School) and Sarah

1. Call to order: At 6:06 PM, Shannon Bliven made a motion to call the meeting to order. Price seconded. The motion carried.
2. Review of June 2022 Minutes: Price made a motion to approve June's minutes. Shannon seconded. The motion carried.
3. Public Participation: Lucy Bell spoke to us about the Walk Audit, which Ileana and Shannon attended. The purpose was to audit routes near the Morris School. Areas of concern are Beech Street and Hampshire Street. A report is being drafted, and the final report will be sent to Shannon. Lucy was trying to determine the best way to present the report, perhaps to the School Department. She mentioned the schools are very interested in infrastructure improvements. Nathan spoke about his experience as a bicyclist here, and his issues with Holyoke, such as potholes, sharing lanes with cars, his concern over personal safety with vacant lots and the appearance of neighborhoods.
4. Complete Street Update: Kris Baker did not attend this meeting and had nothing new to report to us.
5. Events: *a. Joining other events*- Shannon mentioned there are always ValleyBike events going on, and the need for volunteers. She would like the new MassInMotion coordinator to participate. She will make a list for us of ValleyBike events.  
*b. Back-to-school*- The event will be held Saturday, August 20, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, with back packs and helmets given out to the kids, information, free ice cream, and introductions to regional organizations.
6. ValleyBike: Ileana spoke about 4-bikes being thrown into the canals, and 2-more recovered undamaged from the Police Station. She is working with Police Captain Cruz and the need for conveying to the public that the bikes are city property and people will be prosecuted for damaging them.
7. Old Business:  
*a. Bike Racks*- An artistic bike rack proposal was made by Christine, and Ileana will keep reaching out publically for other proposals. Price spoke about securing funds for the bike racks, and the need for them especially in the downtown area. He mentioned possible Grant matching funds if a municipality agrees to install the racks.
8. New Business:  
*a. Website*- Shannon made a motion to remove the March recording of meeting minutes on the website, and to have no other recordings of meetings posted. Price seconded, and the motion carried.  
*b. Licensed Bike Instructors*- Shannon spoke about the expense, because for each instructor it costs \$500, with a minimum of 10- people participating. She hopes that the new MassInMotion coordinator will be able to help. The issue was tabled until the next meeting when the coordinator is in the position.  
*c.- e.* talked about previously  
*f. Bicycle-Friendly Community Application*- Kristen spoke about Bronze-Silver-and Gold status as a "Bike Friendly" Community, and how to achieve these ratings. Price commented that the applications are fairly involved, and Shannon asked if we could form a sub-committee to fill out the application, similar to other municipalities that have their staffs work on them. Kristen said she would look to see if there are any fees, and how involved the application process is.  
*g. Laminated map*- Shannon spoke of the importance of a laminated Holyoke street map for Complete Streets, and Ileana will ask Sharon and Aaron about the Planning Department paying for the map, or just the lamination.
9. Next meeting is scheduled for August 29, instead of Labor Day.
10. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Shannon. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM. Ileana seconded. Motion carried.