

**Pelham Active Transportation Committee
Minutes**

Tuesday, Jan 19, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Location: via teleconference

1. **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, Curtis Thompson. Guests: Bill Heska (delegation)
Regrets: Aalijah Khan (MYAC),

Call to Order and Declaration of Quorum

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

2. Adoption of Agenda

Item 8.2 – moved to accommodate delegation
6.2 to be deferred
Addition – Signed bicycle route (8.5)

Moved by: D. Nicholson

Seconded by: B. Rybiak

THAT the agenda for the Jan 19, 2021 meeting be adopted as amended.

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

Bea is doing research for the Town on available grants.

4. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: B. Fish

Seconded by: D. Huson

THAT the minutes from Dec 15, 2020 meeting be approved.

Carried

6. Business Arising from Minutes – Dec 15, 2020

6.1 PATC 2020 budget update - printing of cycling map

The maps have been printed. They will be distributed to Meridian Community Centre, Town Hall and the library, when it is safe to do so. The PATC also has a supply of the maps.

6.2 Review of Trails and Trail Development Document

Deferred.

6.3 Discussion of Trail apps

Town staff asked to add details regarding the Steve Bauer Trail and Gerry Berkhout Trail to All Trails, a widely used trail app. (www.alltrails.com) The information about the SBT is incorrect on All Trails and the full trail is not shown. The Gerry Berkhout Trail is not shown.

Moved by: R Evans

Seconded by: B. Rybiak

THAT Town staff add accurate information for the Steve Bauer Trail and Gerry Berkout Trail to the All Trails website and app.

Carried

A further request was made that the John Nemy Trail be signed to help people navigate the trail.

Action: Jason to follow-up with Dave Nichols on this.

The description of the Steve Bauer Trail on the regional map and website also needs editing as it suggests the trail ends at the Welland canal. Staff will be asked to update this information on the Region's website.

Dave suggested that more permanent signs be added to the Steve Bauer Trail which recognize Steve Bauer and provide a brief history of the trail and area. The OMCC grant stipulates that signage must identify the funding sources.

It was suggested that QR codes on signs could provide access to more information such as the history of the trails.

Action: Bea will explore with Marc MacDonald how much the existing QR codes on the "It's a 5 minute walk to xxx" are being used.

6.4 Pelham Street Reconstruction, Phase 2 design

Town staff took feedback from PATC and Glynn A. Green's Active School Travel committee to address design issues that could increase pedestrian and cyclist safety. An arborist examined the health of the trees and the design was modified to retain the healthy trees. The Town will hold a Public Information Centre on this plan to get further input.

Moved by: B. Rybiak

Seconded by: R. Evans

THAT PATC supports the Pelham Street reconstruction plan in front of Glynn A. Green school with the addition of the bike lane, multi-use trail for students, retention of healthy trees and the raised intersection as a traffic calming measure.

Carried

6.5 PATC Budget Request 2021

Council approved the Town's operating budget, including the PATC's budget request.

Action: Staff to confirm the PATC's 2021 budget allocation.

6.6 Funding Opportunities Update

- **Healthy Communities Fund** – no new details available
- **MTO – Road Safety Community Partnership program.** Our grant was approved at \$5400. This will cover a road safety campaign this spring via social media and advertising aimed at high-risk groups. It will also promote traffic calming. The project will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting. Lisa and Barb agreed to work with Bea on this campaign.

6.7 Timing of pedestrian signals update

Carolyn provided an email response. Bea will share this email with the group to review.

6.8 Venture Niagara Cycling Map update

Tolga will follow-up on this action to provide this to Venture Niagara.

6.9 Bicycle Friendly Community Renewal application

Awaiting news on the updated application process.

6.10 Paved Steve Bauer Trail

Rhys congratulated and thanked Councilor Wink for his efforts to preserve the Steve Bauer Trail and Gerry Berkhout Trail. Comments received from the public regarding the developments and site plans that will impact the Steve Bauer Trail indicate a need for PATC to be clear on comments and feedback provided to staff and to Council. It was recommended that the PATC formally document its feedback via motions in the minutes. Councillor Wink will use the PATC minutes to make comments at future Town meetings. PATC requested that it be involved in the review of site plans at an earlier stage to be able to better influence these plans.

6.11 Concerns re Steve Bauer Trail nomenclature

Poles may be one option to provide markers to help people identify their location on the trail.

Action: Jason will discuss this with Dave Nichols and consider the options to address this need.

7 Committee Events and Reports

7.1 Summerfest

No update.

7.2 Senior's Advisory Committee

No update.

7.3 Active School Travel

7.4 Active School Travel walkabouts

No update

8 New Business

8.1. Notice re Environmental and Detailed Transportation Assessment for Reg. Road 37 (Merritt Rd.) and Reg. Road 54 (Rice Rd.)

Received request for input from PATC regarding plans for this location. There will be stakeholder meetings and representation from the PATC will be invited. Bea will send the PATC the emails she received for future PATC discussion on how to best provide input. Councilor Huson, Brian Baty and Dave Nicholson expressed interest in attending that meeting on behalf of the PATC.

Jason indicated that he did attend the kick-off meeting for this stakeholder group. The study limits do not include the roadways in Pelham, but the affected roadways do connect to and continue into Pelham.

Action: Bea will share related emails. Further discussion at next PATC meeting.

8.2. Delegation: B. Heska

Document showing content from emails between Bea and Bill provided. Bill presented his concerns using a map showing planned developments in the Port Robinson Road and Kunda Park areas. He expressed concerns about the volume of pedestrian and vehicle traffic that will increase along Port Robinson Road as a result of the development including the addition of a potentially 10 story dwelling. He expressed further concern regarding the proposed storm water management system including a pond. With the developments and changes being proposed, Bill urged the PATC to review the active transportation safety issues related to increased traffic and changing traffic patterns.

Members discussed these concerns further, with input from staff, with the intent of understanding how best to increase safety for pedestrians and cyclists. Bea noted that when these plans were originally presented by staff, the PATC did discuss safety issues and provide input at that time, as it has with other development issues. Formal objections or endorsements were not made. We will continue to discuss options with staff and provide input to these plans.

8.3. PATC debrief regarding Steve Bauer Trail

Members discussed thoughts for future practice based on our experience with how decisions related to the Steve Bauer Trail unfolded, recognizing that our position on this issue was not clear. Ideas included:

- Need to be clear on nature of presentations from staff. Is the presentation for information only vs. is a formal position expected or required?
- Treat these meetings more formally by labelling our input in a way that would be more useful to staff and to Council
- The experience highlights the need to formalize and vocalize our comments more intentionally e.g., via a motion to provide better input to staff
- Would help to clarify what the next step is e.g., is there further opportunity to provide comments or consultation
- Recognize that the virtual meetings present challenges in viewing documents to inform discussions
- Could consider providing comments on policy documents such as secondary plans

Next steps: if the plan is changed and there is opportunity for further comment, PATC would like the opportunity to do this.

8.4 Requirement for AT database

Deferred.

8.5 Signed Bicycle Routes – Brian

Deferred.

9.0 Adjournment

Moved by: B. Fish

Seconded by: B. Baty

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings, 2021

February 16 (check for conflict)

March 16

April 20

May 18

June 15