

DANVERS BI-PEDS NEWS

Volume 5, Number 2, Summer, 2007



TOWN TO BEGIN FORMAL LEASE NEGOTIATIONS WITH MBTA

At the June 19 Th. meeting of the Board of Selectmen, town manager, Wayne Marquis, gave the Selectmen an update on rail trail related happenings at town hall. Referring back to the resolution which the 5 Selectmen signed on March 6 stating Danvers would work with the other communities which make up the Border To Boston Coalition to study the feasibility of the regional trail, he said he had appointed Evan Belansky to represent the town at Coalition and Mass. Highway Task Force meetings on the regional trail.

He also stated that he would be sending a letter to Mark Boyle, Director of Real Estate at the MBTA, indicating that the town was interested in entering into formal negotiations for a lease of the rail bed. It is thought that by the end of the year there should be an agreement for the Selectmen to consider.

BIKE RAFFLE

The Bi-Peds are raffling off a Trek 7100 bicycle from Western Cycle Shop. The main goal of the raffle is to collect more names, and in particular more e-mail addresses, of the residents of Danvers so that when issues arise which relate to our goals more people can be informed quickly and inexpensively. The raffle is **free** and open to anyone in town 13 and older. It is hoped to have the bike and raffle entry forms available at events around town during the summer months but anyone can stop by Western Cycle at 22 Maple St. to fill out a form.

Volunteers would be appreciated to take entry forms and perhaps a photo of the bike around to events. If you or your children play sports, the games make great places to take raffle forms. Any activities where you gather with Danvers people would be good opportunities. It's also a chance to volunteer and not have to make extra time to do it. Contact Matt Duggan at (978) 777-1884 or matthew.duggan@verizon.net to offer your help.

It's a great bike and some lucky Danvers person will win it.

RAIL BED WALK WITH TOWN PLANNER

Thursday, May 24 Th., Ingrid Barry took Evan Belansky, Senior Planner for Danvers, on a site visit of the rail bed. They walked it from town hall to Choate Farm, one of Danvers' newest open space areas. Evan has been representing Danvers at the Mass. Highway Task Force meetings working with the Border to Boston Coalition to help with the creation of a regional trail from Danvers to the New Hampshire border.

It was a great day for a walk. Ingrid supplied sun screen and insect spray as the rail bed in it's current shape can be home to ticks. Evan was also presented with a Bi-Peds water bottle filled with ice water.

Now that Evan has a clearer picture of what a great asset the pathway would be for the town, perhaps it will help him when he has to explain it to others.

T-SHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE

Thanks to the efforts of Steven Cotter, you can now order attractive t-shirts sporting the Bi-Peds logo on the front and support the rail trail and web site on the back. Printing is in green, shirts may be ordered in a variety of colors at a cost of \$10.00 each. Call Steven at (978) 750-0532 or e-mail anst6869@verizon.net to order your shirts. Even if you already have too many t-shirts, it's a great way to help spread the word.



**Enter to win this Trek 7100
It's free and easy.**

SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT LEADER

Laura Cilley and Lew Hathaway put together a display in the lobby of the library on the care and use of Danvers sidewalks. It was up until May 20 th. The information resulted in a few replies from citizens who had concern about sidewalks or needed help with maintenance. Anyone who uses sidewalks in Danvers, especially in many residential areas, knows that there are some problems with over grown bushes, low trees branches, accumulated debris, and parked cars which hamper safe passage. Since these are the responsibility of the home owner, the display was meant to help educate citizens.

Realizing that some citizens may have physical constraints which would make it difficult to get their sidewalks in shape, Laura Cilley volunteered to chair a citizens group which will go out to assist these people. She is looking for people who need help to get their sidewalks in safe passing condition. She has also been speaking with the high school Community Service Learning instructor, Jacquelyn White, in an effort to get young people involved in a community effort to make Danvers sidewalks safer.

On June 19 Th., Bi-Peds representatives, Laura Cilley, Charles Lincicum, and Ingrid Barry, met with David Lane, Director of Operations of Public Works Department, Susan Fletcher, Assistant Director in the Planning Office, and Tenley Bevins of the Disability Committee to talk about ways to take the sidewalk improvement idea to the next level. It was agreed that in early September, the group would meet at a time when Miss White is available to discuss ways to get the high school students involved in a meaningful way.

BIKE RACK UPDATE

During a meeting on June 19 Th., Charles Lincicum, a Bi-Peds board member, presented information to David Lane, Director of Operations of Public Works Department, concerning the installation of several bike racks around Danvers. The racks are available free from the MAPC Regional Bike Parking Program but shipping and installation are the responsibility of the town or from donations. It is hoped that at least some of the racks will be installed before the end of the year at places such as town hall, the upper level of the Library, and downtown. The Danvers Bi-Peds intend to assist in this project.

BIKE RACK FOR A DONATION TO THE BI-PEDS

Used Rhode Gear 2-bike receiver hitch shuttle bike rack. which attaches to a 1 1/4" or 2' trailer hitch available for a donation of at least \$20 to the Danvers Bi-Peds. Contact Ingrid Barry at 978-774-8159 or e-mail ibarry@danversbipeds.org if you are interested. It doesn't fit the new car.

MAY 14, 2007 - ANNUAL MEETING

Following newspaper coverage and over 100 postcards sent to home owners adjacent to the rail bed inviting them to come and learn about life next to a rail trail, the turn out for the Annual Meeting on Monday, May 14th was light. Harvey Bingham from Lexington, with help from his wife Gladys, and Craig Della Penna from Northampton covered a wide range of topics on rail trails and how they enjoy their homes adjacent to popular trails.

The door prize, a weekend at the Sugar Maple Trail Side Inn in Florence, MA, was won by Roy Baessler of Topsfield.

The business part of the annual meeting was quickly taken care of. Changes to the by-laws to make them conform with the way the organization functions were voted on but later it was decided that the required quorum was not present. They will be voted on at the meeting on September 10, 2007. The slate of officers and board of directors remains the same as last year with 3 exceptions. Since Ralph Ardoff resigned as director (he is off enjoying himself in other parts of the country so often, he did not feel he should remain on the board) and Pete Maddocks moved from director to treasurer; 2 new directors will be installed in September as well. They are Laura Cilley and Pat Gagnon.

The Bi-Peds wish to thank Ralph Ardoff for his help in the past and hope that he will be back at some future time. We also want to thank Pat Gagnon for her work as treasurer during the last 2 years. Those who remained in their positions and continue to work toward the goals of the Bi-Peds are especially appreciated. See the entire list of officers and directors on page 4.

The Bi-Peds also wish to thank Endicott Park for making the Carriage Room available for the annual meetings as well as each monthly meeting during the year. Thanks also to Matt Duggan for taking care of refreshments for the annual meeting.

WALKING GROUP ENDS, AT LEAST FOR NOW

National Trails Day, June 2 nd, saw the end the weekly walking group led by Steven Cotter. He had made the walks available each week since day light savings time began but due to the lack of participation, the walks on a regular basis are being discontinued. He will continue to occasionally lead walks around Danvers. Watch for newspaper notices or check the danversbipeds.org calendar.



**THE DANVERS BI-PEDS WISH TO WELCOME
ALL OUR NEW MEMBERS AND THANK ALL
WHO HAVE RENEWED SINCE MARCH, 2007**

If you have not renewed your membership, please consider doing so. We believe we are closer to getting the town to move forward on the pathway. Such pathways take years to get developed. Don't get discouraged. Continue to show your support. Membership gives you the satisfaction of showing support for a cause you believe in; safer biking and walking in Danvers. The greater our membership, the bigger our voice.

If you haven't joined yet, please do so today. Membership will also bring you discounts at Western Cycle, 22 Maple St., Danvers and at all Landry's Bicycles locations, www.landrys.com.

Danvers Bi-Peds Board Members

President: Ingrid Barry 978-774-8159
Vice President: Matt Duggan 978-777-1884
Secretary: Maxine Taymore 978-777-5707
Treasurer: Peter Maddocks 978-762-3701
Membership Chairman: Larry Tormey 978-774-6630
Board of Directors:
 Lewis Hathaway 978-774-5848 Laura Cilley 978-777-4661
 Charles Lincicum 978-777-5574 Pat Gagnon 978-774-1948
 Steven Cotter 978-750-0532

**EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO
BORDER TO BOSTON TRAIL SCOUTING EVENT**

Steve Golden of the National Park Service says that October 21st will be a beautiful, fall day. That is the day he has been working with the 8 communities which make up the Border to Boston Coalition to plan a relay event from Danvers to the NH border along the proposed route of the Trail. Although it is not going to be open to the general public as this event is to learn more about what lies along the route, anyone who is interested in participating should contact Ingrid Barry at 978-774-8159 or e-mail ibarry@danversbipeds.org. The Bi-Peds hope to have at least 8 to 10 people walking that day. The day is still in the planning stages but it will include refreshments and a program in Georgetown, the mid point. Some form of shuttle service may be offered. Anyone who participates is almost certain to see a part of the area they have not visited previously.

TRAILS AND SAILS WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 28 TO 30

Trails & Sails is the Essex National Heritage Area's annual weekend of free events. It takes place the last weekend of September and 2007's Trails & Sails Weekend will take place September 28 - 30. Last year over 2800 residents and visitors enjoyed the remarkable heritage resources found throughout Essex County when 85 sites, organizations and communities throughout the Area opened the doors to more than 150 unique and special programs, all free of charge! This year there will be lots of new ones and some popular favorites returning.

In conjunction with the weekend, the Bi-Peds are sponsoring an historic walk led by Robert Farley, architect and history lover. The 2 mile walk will start and stop at the Witch Memorial on Hobart St. Watch for the Trails and Sails programs in the newspaper or on line at www.essexheritage.org for details on all the programs.

**YES! I want to help make Danvers
a safer place to bike and walk.
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name

Address

.....

Phone.....

E-mail.....

(Please print clearly)

\$250 Corporate Sustaining

\$200 Corporate Proponent

\$150 Corporate Supportive

\$100 Corporate

Individuals and families

\$100 Sustaining

\$50 Proponent

\$35 Supportive

\$20 Family

\$10 Adult

\$5 Youth (under 18)

**Make check payable to
Danvers Bi-Peds, Inc.
c/o Larry Tormey
21 Bradley Road
Danvers, MA 01923
www.danversbipeds.org**



**3 Riding Club Road
Danvers, MA 01923**

DO YOU HAVE A BIKING OR WALKING CONCERN OR SUGGEST?

Please let us know about it. Call any board member.

Together we may be able to work on it.

SPREADING THE WORD ON SAFETY

Each year YMCA's across the country hold a event called Healthy Kids Day. This year, on April 14 Th., the Bi-Peds participated with members, Maxine Taymore, Matt Duggan & his twins, and Ingrid Barry helping. Twenty five children signed cards pledging to always wear helmets when biking and thus got to enter a raffle for a \$20 gift certificate to Western Cycle which was won by Madeline Grshan. It is hoped they are remembering their pledge to wear their helmets.

BI-PEDS ARE GRANT RECIPIENT

The Governors Council on Safety issued grants of bicycle helmets to 250 organizations across the state. Fifty of the helmets went to the Bi-Peds which will be given away free in conjunction with the YMCA summer day camp on July 23 rd. Some of them were also given out recently at Endicott Park day.

ENDICOTT PARK DAY

Once again, the Danvers Bi-Peds participated in Endicott Park Day on June 23 rd. With beautiful weather, the event was well attended and the Bi-Peds table was visited by many people. Thanks to the efforts of Matt Duggan, it was the start of a bike raffle (see page one). Twenty free bike helmets were given away to children. People also stopped for information about the organization and the rail trail progress, to become members, and to buy t-shirts. Free water and ice tea was offered to everyone.

Thanks goes to Matt Duggan for setting up and taking down the display, and to Larry Tormey and Lew Hathaway for stopping by to help Ingrid and Tom Barrv.

UPCOMING EVENTS, SCHEDULED TO DATE

September 10 - Bi-Peds meetings resume. Watch for details.

September 28 to 30 - Trails and Sails Weekend, Bi-Peds participate (See page 3)

October 21 - End to End Scouting Event (See page 3)

DID YOU KNOW....

According to Mass Cyclist, spring 2007, The Mass Bike newsletter - The number one reason cyclists in the USA cite for not biking is fear of traffic. Meanwhile, as much as 60% of all bike crashes are caused by the cyclist. Both of these troubling trends can be addressed through better education,.... To learn more about the rules of biking in Massachusetts go to www.massbike.org/bike law.

