2020 Minutes March 5  HBPC (name change to Bike Walk Hanover)

- **Public Input- Guests are Welcome**
  - Lebanon bike ped-Sarah Akhtar- GUEST- visibility, other 10 minutes
    - on the Lebanon Bike Ped Committee since 2018
    - lived here 17 years
    - philosophy: everyone needs to be engaged
    - interested in reflectives
    - leveraging human nature, working on car safety as well
    - something reflective no one could have an excuse not to use
    - find a way to engage everyone to find safety a prime concern
    - leverage students at schools both because they are creative and spur change with parents, peers and community
  - Rebecca Owen -Guest. Lebanon Town Planner- it’s not a lack of knowledge of best practices, it’s a problem of funding and translating best practices into action
  - Bill - encourages Wave and Walk and armband distribution, passed out bundles + ideas for messaging
  - Pedestrian safety messages: Valley News and Dartmouth D (Bill), Vox Dartmouth bulletin ( Hugh), Other
  - Route 120 Planning Meeting Feb 24
    - HBPC submitted response, drafted by Bill. See Public Input
  - Mount Support Road Housing plan and bike ped infrastructure.
    - need HBPC response, Bill will draft
    - Rebecca - all developers are being asked to coordinate on a common project, this project has to be defined. The DHMC is involved, perhaps Lebanon Planning
    - Rob, responding to Regional Impact to this project - we should echo that we need a collaboration, and prioritize pedestrian, bike and transit (mirror previous position and master plan). We can give a comment on this specific project, or give a broader approach.
    - Rob added that the developers are asking for a waiver on parking for a conditional use permit for more parking…because the unites will be rented to groups of individuals students who all may have cars
    - Rob and Rebecca added that the developers are “considering” a private shuttle, along with specific bike and pedestrian improvements, but these are not set in stone.
    - Rob challenges some of the assumptions in the plan, such as the existence of a bike lane on 120 south of Buck Road - this is a “bike route” not a “bike lane”. Firm standards are not in place in New Hampshire. Considerations beyond what is required by NH are considered “exactions” and not allowed….
    - The development will have 1200 new residences. The deadline for the letter is March 9th (Monday)
  - Lyme River Road meeting March 3-Is anyone interested and going?
    - Hugh went to mtg, erosion and closure of River Road, building a bypass around it. In Lyme the SB voted to give that portion of the road to the abutters (about 1000 ft)- pedestrians and bicycling folks want to keep it
open as a place for pedestrians and bicyclists as the bypass has steep elevations and blind turns. This section of the road is now stabilized (with pilings) - not safe for cars but seemingly ok for bikes and peds. Hoyt Albertson is opposed to giving away the road. Any support is welcome. River Road is a fantastic and safe bicycling and pedestrian road. Many people use it to travel north and to Thetford.

- Rebecca suggests reaching out to organizations that the towns have in common…. such as anyone who does circuits or races that go on River Road, the Upper Valley Business Alliance (Hanover, Lyme, Lebanon…), and the Prouty.
- (Jennie, Scott, Doug happy to help Hugh with letter.)

- **Minutes Feb 2020- approval.** Thank you Tim Cox. (we did not read/approve minutes)

- **Housekeeping**
  - Recorder for today and future - Jennie Chamberlain
  - Request for Google Drive coaching- Chair (didn't cover - I can help move things around the drive)
  - Recruiting interested friends, neighborhood representatives, etc.. (didn’t cover)
    - Dartmouth safety and security or Wellness

- Project Thank You= Gretchen, Jennie, Laura
  - HBPC members- please bring proposals for Thank You Recognition.
  - changing name to Bike Walk Hanover
  - Jennie will fix survey and secure it from unintentional edits

- Dartmouth College Master Plan Bike Ped update- Joanna Whitcomb - not here

- Town Planning and DPW Report- Rob Houseman
  - deadline Friday the 20th, some corrections via Rob: 
  - Rob Houseman, Director of town Planning and Zoning
  - Joanna Whitcomb, Director of Campus Planning
  - Selectboard is one word

- HBPC Priority List- Proposal for Review by Town Planner, College Planner and interested HBPC Members. Update- What is done? What is college managing? What is missing? Please review the email document from Rob Houseman- coming soon.
  - working on getting accurate data, reviewing application now
  - deadline in Fall
  - question the crash data, no data from Dartmouth security
  - reported crash data on previous application seemed out of whack with experience in Hanover
  - covers an array of info such as percent of public works dollars spent, what bike facilities we have
  - Rob is working to ensure the data is accurate
• Crash Report- *(didn’t cover)*

• Chair’s Report-
  • Spring planning
    • Town Report due by March 20, Editors needed, Review,
    • *(Bill drafted letter, distribute copies for review, Rob’s small corrections listed above)*
    • See Calendar below for Events, Leaders and Volunteers.
    • volunteer sign up sheet passed around and collected by Bill
    • Scot pointed out that the Bike Rodeo, if on Sunday, should be in the afternoon so as not to conflict with church
  • Goals and Vision rolling into 2020- Do we Plan a Town Wide Bike Ped Outreach? If Yes, what are the goals? *(did not get to)*

• Video- Rules of the Road for Hanover?
  • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cmz73jS1AOc&feature=youtu.be
  • discussed possibility of teaming up with Vital Communities if they are onboard for similar messaging

11. 2020 Planning and Volunteers

Are you signed up? Please add your name to the LISTS

• **April 22 Earth Day Wed.** What do we do? Date. Town Listening 
  Too soon to organize

• **Walk to School** May 6 Wednesday -7:15- 7:45 Ray with Ray School

  Dave Dostal, Hugh Mellert, Bill Young
  Next Step- Bill will contact Hanover Parks/Rec who will firm up the date/time (Sun May 3- 10-12 tentative) with Ray School, reserve parking lot, etc.
  We are the Volunteers and need more than 3.

• **Town HBPC Listening Day** IF, What, Where?

  Hugh Mellert, Scot Drysdale, Bill Young
  Next Step: Bill will contact town (Rob Houseman) regarding date and location. My Goals: Inform citizens about what we are doing and seek feedback.
Topics or Stations: Traffic Calming and Complete Streets with new Main Street ideas. Cross Town Mup proposal. Priority List of Engineering Projects. Crossing and Signal Improvements and what works. Lower Speed Limits. OTHER? The Air B and B Listening Session was one good model.

Town Meeting May 12- 2nd Tuesday in May one hour) IF and What?
Bill Young- In Door Poster Session. Goal-Let the community know we exist and make one point. Point options- 1 Be Visible. 2 Smart Street Crossing (wave walk). 3 Other.

Pop Up Park- IF, What, When Where. Also Bike to Work Day 5/15
Jennie Chamberlain (Lead). Help will be needed.
What Next- Talk with Rob Houseman Where, When, How Long, and What. Sustainable Hanover is interested in partnering. bethany@vitalcommunities.org will advertise.

- May 20 Ride for Silence – Omer and Bob’s 6:30 to Hanover.
  Dave Dostal, Scot Drysdale.
  Next Step- Check out details. Inform Bike Walk Hanover (former HBPC) and consider broader advertising.

- Long Range-
  - July 4 Parade– Bike Ped.
    Dave Dostal, Scot Drysdale- Check with Hanover Parks/Rec,
  - August Bike Repair at Howe before Prouty Event.
    Dave Dostal- Check with Howe Library Regarding Interest, Date, Time etc
  - Bike Friendly City application to L.A.B.
Rob Houseman and Jennie Chamberlain are working on this. Thanks for leading,

**OTHER??**

- **12. Speed Limit Change Proposals** - Jennie Chamberlain discussed briefly, some had dispersed
- Jennie dispersed some information about the benefits of lowering speed limits vs the increased travel time by car (will email the group)
- Rob said lowering the speed on S. Main from 30mph to 25mph was something they could do
- Rob said the stretch on Rt 10 was trickier, and he was figuring out how they could run a trial, possibly introduce a mid block crossing
- Narrowing lane widths is challenging, because even though narrowing lanes lower speeds, they increase the fear of head on collisions, so another traffic calming approach may work better
- Jennie suggested breaking this segment into two - one between the Coop and the middle school, and one by the golf course, so that the speed changes by the middle school can happen more immediately (it goes from 15mph at the roundabout, to 30mph in front of the Coop, to 20mph by the RMS)

I have 2 items for consideration, both proposed speed limit reductions within Hanover's urban compact because

*lowering speed limits is an effective countermeasure, particularly if done with changes in street design, for countless examples and a great primer on the impact of speed on our communities see recent Governor's report - GHSA Speeding Away from 0*

*and in Boston, simply lowering the speed limit from 30mph to 25mph reduced both speed and speeding (source: IIHS)*

#1. South Main Street

**Segment: .4 miles** Maple/South Street (the CVS) to Brook Road (w/in urban compact)
Proposal: Lower speed limit from 30mph to 25mph (also propose reduce lane width from 12ft to 10ft)*

Benefits: S. Main safer for all road users, quieter, more inviting for walking and bicycling

Tradeoffs:
- slows commuters less than 15 sec
- 70 percent more likely to be killed if struck at 30mph vs 25mph (Source: ProPublica)

This stretch of S. Main deserves Context Sensitive Approach due to:
- Pedestrian and bicycle traffic (coming in from neighborhoods, grad students at Sachem, people using sports facilities at Sachem and in Brook neighborhood, and coming from West Lebanon)
- Schoolchildren and seniors regularly cross S. Main to access town and schools
- Residences and driveways along S. Main
- Extremely narrow shoulder does not allow for comfortable walking or bicycling (particularly on northbound S. Main)
- To keep our park and play space accessible, vehicles should not be speeding up en route to Sachem fields and the ice arena

*NHDOT Guide to Lane Reallocation points to FHWA Resurfacing Workbook which tout successful narrowing of high volume lanes to 10ft

#2. Route 10 (Lyme Road)

Segment: 1.3 miles from North Park & Lyme to Frances Richmond (w/in urban compact)

Proposal: Lower speed limit from 35mph to 25mph

Benefits: Makes Lyme Road safer for all road users, quieter, more inviting for walking and bicycling

Tradeoffs:
- slows commutes less than 1min
- risk of death is halved if a person is struck at 25mph vs 35mph (source: Streetsblog)

This stretch of a deserves Context Sensitive Approach due to:
- route to middle school, elementary school, 2 nursery schools, athletic and play facilities
- connects north side of town to downtown Hanover
- Girl Brook trail crosses road, frequented by hikers, joggers and cross country skiers
- residences along Lyme road have no sidewalk and dicey crossing to the MUP
- speed limit at the roundabouts is 15mph, and it is confusing to have drivers speed up to 30mph only to slow down to 20mph for the school

• Othe