

Minutes

Norwalk Bike/Walk Task Force

June 1st, 2015

Norwalk Health Dept., 7 PM

Present: Mike Mushak, Peter Libre, Jud Aley, Tilly Hatcher, Kaitlin Laitham, Nancy Rosett, Gunnar Waldman, Colin Grotheer, Jim Carter, Tim Callahan, Mayor Harry Rilling, Lucia Rilling, Ian Ray.

- 1.) Approval of May 4th minutes
- 2.) Presentation from Wilhemina Ross, Yale graduate student, about the survey that was conducted by the Yale School of Public Health on bike/ped issues for Norwalk, titled "Perceptions, Attitudes, And Behaviors of Active Transportation Among Key Stakeholders in Norwalk, CT."

Discussion followed on the key findings, including: major reasons listed by surveyed individuals for biking and walking in Norwalk are health, exercise, recreation, and enjoyment, yet a majority reported that Norwalk was not bike- or walk-friendly. There was strong support for more bike lanes and sidewalks, and a common concern was the lack of enforcement on laws regulating drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians.

The conclusions of the survey included that with an increased interest in walking and biking, "the city's current and future efforts to improve walkability and bikability in Norwalk serve to benefit public health and foster a more eco-friendly, healthy, and vibrant city to live in."

- 3.) Group discussed June 6th Trails day event, which Mike Mushak described as a walking tour of the 3-mile Harbor Loop Trail.
- 4.) Kaitlin Laitham discussed latest details including a statement for the "Mayor's Challenge", which Norwalk enrolled in.
- 5.) Tilly Hatcher discussed the Bike/Walk Summit, the interest in making Route 1 a major bike route, and the fact that there will be an upcoming ride in September from Stamford to Bridgeport along Route 1.