

WALK ! BIKE! BROCKPORT

MEETING MINUTES Monday, August 25, 2014 Village Hall

Attendees at this first meeting to be held on the 4th Monday of each month:

Rosie Rich
Peter Randazzo
Pamela Haibach
Elizabeth Lenz
Alicia Fink
Bill Andrews
Merrill Melnick
Raymond Duncan

REVIEWED SUMMER ACTIVITIES

We briefly reviewed our successful summer activities:

- Walking School Bus** project, headed by Dr. Jim Goetz, ongoing.
- Erie Canal Bike Ride**, Monday, July 14: We greeted 535 Bikers at the Main Street Lift Bridge, who were on the annual bicycle ride—Buffalo-Albany.
- Great Big FANY RIDE**, Sunday, July 20: Helped serve a spaghetti dinner to bikers doing the 500 mile tour across the back roads of New York from Niagara Falls to Saratoga Springs. Brockport's Firemen's Exempt field on West Avenue—where they set up tents—is a key rest point. Jim Foote provided wonderful guitar music.
- Bicycle Safety Booth** at the annual August Brockport Arts Festival. We passed out free bicycle helmets to kids and adults who needed them, along with Bicycle Safety Information, while Greg Turner conducted a "safe bicycle riding" rodeo for kids.
- \$50,000.00 Grant received from the Genesee Transportation Council** to develop a Village of Brockport Active Transportation Plan for bicycle and pedestrian traffic. We sent out Requests for Proposal (RFPs) to consulting firms interested in our project. Six proposals came in, and we began the evaluation process.
- This information appeared in a *Suburban News* article.

DISCUSSED HOW TO PROMOTE BROCKPORT MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH BIKERS DOING THE ERIE CANAL BIKE RIDE

Possibilities:

Post cards: We provide bikers with the opportunity to send a Brockport-

highlighted postcard to anyone of their choice—and our Village pays postage. The idea is to remind bikers they passed through Historic Brockport: Victorian Village on the Erie Canal.

Luminescent Shoe Strings: Wrapped with “Village of Brockport” displayed.

Blinking Bicycle Safety Lights: We pass out these items to bikers free of charge w/Historic Brockport: Victorian Village on the Erie Canal written on them.

Sandwich Board displayed beside Main Street Bridge—with an arrow pointing to Historic Brockport [with its bicycle shop, restaurants, Visitors Center, etc.]

NEW PURCHASES

We determined to purchase a new tent [canopy] like the one Alicia Fink has let us borrow for recent events. The tent will have sides to protect against the weather. Alicia went ahead and made that purchase. So we have our new tent.

We discussed—and decided against—purchasing a new and larger Walk Bike Brockport Action Group banner. Perhaps later.

UPDATE ON OUR “WALKING SCHOOL BUS” PROJECT, HEADED BY DR. JIM GOETZ

Dr. Goetz reports that the Walk To School Champion trophy is finished and has been shown to the elementary school principals at Brockport and was met with rave reviews. The trophy is being photographed at the college to highlight the college faculty working with the Village. He has asked Doug Hickerson to write an article on the creation of the trophy and he will supply him with photographs. Hopefully, the article and photographs will appear in the *Suburban News*. The Walk To School Committee has met to plan WALK TO SCHOOL DAY ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1. Debbie Wahl is again in charge of getting volunteer greeters for the intersections. If any of the WBB group is interested, let Dr. Goetz know and he will notify Debbie.

The Walking School Bus Committee (or sub-committee of the W2S Committee) met on 8/20 with the main theme of everyone on the committee encouraging their neighbors to consider walking their children and other neighborhood children to school. Courtney Webster, on Brookdale, had a neighborhood meeting around this and she and another mother will alternate walking their children to school on Mondays and Wednesdays. This is exactly

the community action we need. Jim asks the WBB members to talk to one or two of their neighbors about forming a walking school bus and to offer to walk the children on some regular basis. If we are silent, the concept is not likely to take off.

DISCUSSION OF WHAT WBB MEMBERS WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN OUR PEDESTRIAN AND BIKING MASTER PLAN

Merrill Melnick noted the primary need for bicycle safety—especially on busy streets. Other comments from WBB members:

- Avoid if possible biking on sidewalks
- Wear light colored clothing at night
- Importance of well-marked biking and walking areas
- Destination signs and mileage would be helpful
- More to come from public meetings on the new Master Plan

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, September 22, 4:30 PM, Village Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Duncan, your Humble Servant