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TOWN OF BURLINGTON  
Transportation Study Committee (TSC) Minutes

January 27, 2021

**Call the Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm via Webex

**Voting Members Present:** Millie Nash (MN), Jen Gelinas (JG), David VanCamp (DVC), Patricia O'Brien (POB), Eileen Sickler (ES), Myrna Saltman (MS)

**Non-Voting Members Present:** Various members of the Youth Group for Burlington Against Racism (BAR), Judith Crossman (JC) HS teacher - left the meeting at 8:02, John Strauss (JS), Kristen Kassner (KK) Planning Director – left the meeting at 8:10

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**1. Minutes**

Motion: MN made a motion to accept the minutes from January 20, 2021

Approved: The motion was unanimously approved

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**2. General Discussion**

- The BAR group mentioned several related transportation issues that directly affects their lives as well as their classmates:
  - Lack of buses after school precludes any student who doesn't drive or have alternate transportation
  - There are missing sidewalks particularly along 3A/Wayside and to the high school which makes it very dangerous especially for the track club
  - Inadequate snow and ice removal makes pavements dangerous to use
  - Due to COVID, students living inside a two-mile radius of school, are precluded from bus service which also puts strain on families and prevents students from extracurricular activities
  - Students with no access to transportation can't take advantage of an available part-time job. Some students did take the B line, despite its unpredictable time schedule.
  - The biggest concern heard from the youth BAR group was that many students are missing out on the social aspect of their high school years including any before or after school club, theatre, etc. because of no or poor transportation options.
- PO suggested they contact Dr. Conti about their observations and concerns
- The idea of a questionnaire for and by the students was discussed and if it should be included in the upcoming TSC questionnaire. It was generally agreed that the students should conduct their own questionnaire or survey as they better know the concerns and specific circumstances. We all agreed their results would be mentioned and referenced in our May 2021 Town Meeting report.
- JC will follow up with the group for the High School regarding their questionnaire as well as the Middle School which is also beginning to address transportation issues
- KK thanked and congratulated the TSC for our questions to the Town Administration at Town Meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup> and believes we have support for our project
- Our committee plans to attend the Board of Selectmen's meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup> in anticipation of learning about the financial and process side of transportation related monies. This is expected to raise questions from our committee in attendance.
- We agreed to finish the questionnaire at the next meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.



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- It was suggested that certain departments heads who may have direct concerns or input, come to our February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting for their comments and suggestions
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**2. Assignment**

- ES will ask Chief Kent from police; MS will ask Brendan Egan from Recreation Department and PO will ask Andy Wells-Bean, a TMM who spoke at Town Meeting about the nature and uses of funding.
  - JG will ask Melisa Tintocalis about the results of the survey she distributed to various business
  - JG will ask KK about the Safe Routes to School program which was suggested by the Sidewalk Committee
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**3. Next Meeting Date/Time**

- Next meeting date is Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 7 pm via Webex
- Motion to adjourn at 8:55

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Eileen Sickler, Recording Secretary*

**Approved:** Unanimously, February 3, 2021