



# TOWN OF HAMDEN

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Curt Balzano Leng  
Mayor

Hamden Government Center  
2750 Dixwell Ave  
Hamden, CT 06518  
Tel: (203) 287-7100  
Fax: (203) 287-7101

**Minutes: The Farmington Canal Commission, Town of Hamden, held a Regular Meeting via Zoom at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2020. The following topics were discussed.**

**Commissioners in Attendance: Mr. Horowitz, Ms. Sharma, Mr. Anton, Mr. Reger, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Mallory**

**Commissioners excused: Mr. Schaefer, Ms. Becker**

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Horowitz called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Commissioners discussed the auto/bicycle accident on on the trail at Goodrich Street. Several comments were made about possible safety improvements at the intersections along the trail, including flashing lights and signs in crosswalk.

**2. Review Minutes of January 7, 2020 – tabled to June meeting**

**3.**

Review Minutes of March 10, 2020

**Mr. Reger made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Horowitz seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

**4. Report from Matt Davis**

There was no report from Mr. Davis.

**5. Phase I Update (Mt. Sanford Road to Todd Street)**

Mr. Mallory spends about two days per week on the northern end of the trail. He observed on the weekend and on Monday and found that people were safe distancing, there were a few speeding bicycles, but in general bikers were announcing on your left. Not too many people on the trail on Monday, but there were a few families He saw Pat, who picks up trash along the trail and thanked her.

Mr. Horowitz called Public Works about a couple of issues. One issue is that the portable toilet was not in the Todd Street parking lot, and the other was asking when the public water fountain was going in. Mr. Reger heard on the news that public water fountains are not being turned on Mr. Horowitz mentioned that the new public toilets in Cheshire are locked. Mr. Mallory

mentioned that people can carry water. He also said the portapotty at Brooksvale Park is available, as are the bathrooms in the little house at the top of the hill.

Mr. Anton mentioned that decisions regarding the water fountains and portapotties should be left to the Health Department and the Town.

**6. Phase IIA Update (Todd Street to Hamden Hills Drive)**

Mr. Reger submitted a photo of low hanging branch that could be dangerous on a windy day. It is about 100' south of Shepard Avenue.

There was talk of a possible accident on Whitney Avenue near Tuttle Avenue and Wentworth's.

**7. Phase IIB Update (Hamden Hills Drive to Connolly Parkway)**

Mr. Reger said he rode the whole trail on Saturday and it seemed good. Mr. Anton added that he road the southern portion a few days ago, and thought it was in good shape

**8. Phase III Update (Connolly Parkway to New Haven Line)**

Mr. Reger noted some frost heaves that were painted yellow north of Putnam Avenue. Mr. Horowitz commented that an inspection of the trail via golf cart took place about 1.5 years ago and notations and gps notes were made, but as far as he can tell nothing has been done. Mr. Anton said repairs were made to the northern section.

**9. Old Business**

**10. New Business**

Mr. Mallory apologized for not being at the last meeting. He wondered if there has been any news on the signs. He said there are still signs that are not readable. Mr. Anton said he and Ms. Sharma are still working on the signs. At the last meeting, Mr. Schaefer mentioned that he might have a resource for funding signs and that Rails to Trails might also contribute. Mr. Horowitz said if more than a few hundred dollars are needed, someone would have to speak at the Rails to Trails board meeting. Ms. Sharma wants to put something together to bring to the Rails to Trails board. There was further discussion on signage along the Trail. Mr. Horowitz mentioned the possibility of 8 x 10 signs with QR codes to bring users to the information. Mr. Mallory mentioned several "social distancing" signs at intersections.

Mr. Mallory mentioned that he has seen many families using Brooksvale Park. Mr. Horowitz mentioned that many trail users are not wearing masks. Mr. Anton agreed except when he was on the trail and most were wearing masks. Mr. Mallory said when people passed they would pull up their mask and then take it down again when they were at a distance.

Mr. Anton and Ms. Sharma will stay on the signs.

**11. Adjournment**

**Mr. Reger made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Sharma seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_