



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday September 29, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.
Public Works Department Conference Room

The Safe Routes to School Committee met on Monday, September 29, at 9:00 a.m. at Public Works Department Conference Room.

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** In Christina Westfall's absence Debbie Finnigan called the meeting to order at approximately 9:05 a.m.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Debbie Finnigan, Traffic Engineer, , Police Commissioner John Golumb, Police Commission Representative, Detective Rebecca Hester, Police Department Representative, Rebecca Emerson, School Board Representative, Kirsten Barton, Little Harbor Representative and Francesca Tise, Dondero Representative.

Absent: Christina Westfall, Dr. Robert Lister

- III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**
MOTION made by Rebecca Emerson to accept the minutes of the September 17, 2008 meeting as presented. Seconded by John Golumb. Motion passed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. October 8th, 2008 – Walk to School Day

- 1) Little Harbour Update – Kirsten Barton reported the celebration will be minimal because there is testing and will leave the South Mill Pond at 8:15 a.m. for school. There was discussion that the principal walking during the day and getting Steve Chilton to walk around the trail so there may be activities after the testing. The Proclamation will be read, there will not be food.
- 2) New Franklin Update – Rebecca Emerson reported there will be juice and granola. Will leave at 7:50 a.m. from Pine St. Playground, the Proclamation will be read and refreshments served. Because of the testing something will be done in the afternoon. The names for the raffle will be drawn in the afternoon. Mias, a black dog will also walk.
- 3) Dondero Update – Francesca Tise reported the names will be taken in the morning for the raffle, the gym teacher will try to do something in the afternoon for the kids that bus. The names will be taken fore the raffle in the morning and then the busers names will be added. The principal will

handle the raffle. The Principal will read the proclamation. Francesca Tise stated the school is interested in doing safety things for the kids, show them how they should be riding to school, wearing helmets correctly and the bike rodeo in the spring.

Debbie Finnigan suggested we e-mail them saying we appreciate their enthusiasm and really need your help and the communities help and would like to start organizing the rodeo in the spring and meet with us.

- 4) Middle School Update – Debbie Finnigan reported she did not have an update.
- 5) Food Donated – John Golumb stated he has juice donated from Favorite Foods and Granola. Rebecca Emerson stated that Shaw’s donates gift certificates and you can go get what you need. John will contact Me & Ollie’s to make arrangements for pick up. John Golumb will donate gift certificates to his restaurant.
- 6) Volunteers – Francesca reported there were volunteers to carry the signs and will ask people neighborhood people to observe in their area.

Debbie Finnigan is hoping that parents will be at the location.

- i. Schedule who will be where - Debbie Finnigan will ask for volunteers
- ii. Who will bring food, raffle items, Safe Route to School flyer, etc to each school – Debbie Finnigan will put into boxes for pickup by others, the food, raffle items, flyers to put on the table if parents want more information and requested that any flyers that left over to please return to her. Debbie will ask who wants to pick it up at DPW in the morning.

Debbie Finnigan suggested putting on the Agenda for the next meeting to invite those people in and figure out what incentive for each school would be, a walking club, a biking club, etc. Their experience may bring with it ideas of how to implement incentives.

Debbie Finnigan will prepare paper with first and last names and teacher for the raffle.

- 7) Prizes Donated – Debbie Finnigan reported that FEDEX did not get back to her. Rebecca Emerson stated that Papa Wheelies may bike with them. Rebecca Emerson reported that Strawberry Banke will donate family passes and water bottles.
- 8) Security Update – Rebecca Hester reported that she will speak to the Captain about having Police cars if there are extra cars and will request volunteers and will get back to Debbie Finnigan by Friday. There will be someone at each location. She will also be present. Debbie Finnigan stated we just need their presence. Debbie Finnigan will speak with the Fire Department to see if there are any volunteers to be present. Rebecca Hester stated that the crossing guards are aware of the Walk to School Day.

- 9) Banners and Signs Update – Francesca stated that signs were made by PEAK and the student leadership team are also making signs. PEAK also expressed an interest in working next year with the older students to help and take part in the walk.

Debbie Finnigan will make up signs for the leaders to hold and have them laminated and place on a stick. Debbie will modify the banner she made for Children’s Day for the Schools.

- 10) Outstanding Needs -

- 11) Publicity – Debbie Finnigan stated that flyers went out to the schools. A release has been placed in the City’s newsletter and Foster’s and Portsmouth Herald.

- 12) Participation Certificates – Debbie Finnigan suggested a letter or an actual certificate for people who volunteered to thank them and show our appreciation.

Debbie Finnigan will provide each school with maps. Debbie Finnigan will send the members an e-mail when all is finalized.

Debbie Finnigan sent invitations to the City Councilors.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The Complete packet is on file at the Public Works Department.

Respectfully submitted

Elaine Boucas
Recording Secretary