

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes May 5, 2016

1. Call to order - The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm, May 5, 2016 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue. Committee members attending were Tony Bedogne, Martha Cleary, Bob Krzewinski, Lena Reeves and Sarah Walsh.
2. Introductions
 - a. Audience participation/public Input – A possible “blessing of bikes” was discussed.
3. General business
 - a. Agenda approval – A motion was made by Sarah, seconded by Tony, to approve the agenda, passing unanimously.
 - b. Approval of April meeting minutes - A motion was made by Martha, seconded by Tony, to approve the April meeting minutes, passing unanimously.
 - c. Officer reports – Bob reported that due to time conflicts Kelly Kowatch has resigned from the Committee but hopes to be back in the future. Bob reported that he is working with John Waterman of the Program To Educate All Cyclists on a possible federal grant for a local safety education program geared towards adults and 5th grade students. Bob also reported on news relating to the Washtenaw County Road Commission proposed ballot issue that would have 20% of funds go to non-motorized issues, as well as a possible federal Great Urban Parks program grant that if awarded could help with local Border To Border Trail projects.
 - d. New Committee members (DDA members) – Ben Harrington & Mark Teachout (alternate) – Bob will check with these individuals to see if instead of being appointed as Committee members they would just like to serve as Committee Downtown Development Authority liaisons.
4. Old business
 - a. 2016 Committee priorities
 - Sidewalks – MDOT Ferris/Hamilton improvements – Bob had emailed Committee members a copy of a response received from the local Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) office indicating the Committee’s letter on Ferris/Hamilton sidewalk curb cuts was received, that MDOT had reviewed the problem and will take action in the future.
 - Bike lane additions – Forest Avenue bike lane April 20 meeting – Bob reported on this informal meeting and indicated the next step will be placing the bike lanes as an agenda item on a Planning Commission meeting agenda, probably in June.
 - Border To Border Trail completion progress – Michigan Avenue HAWK, Frog Island, Park Street route, Grove Road – No updates.
 - Walk Friendly & Bike Friendly Community applications – Sarah is continuing to work on the Walk Friendly application with Tony, Bob and former Committee member Laura Schlitz working on the Bike Friendly application. A staff member of the League of American Bicyclist that works on the Bike Friendly Community program will visit Ypsilanti for a site visit on May 17th with Bob coordinating the visit agenda, which will include a bike ride and visit with City officials. Sarah also reported that the Washtenaw County Health Department has release new Health Improvement Plan data that relates to data needed on the applications (http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/public_health/health-promotion/hip/hipsurvey).
 - Pedestrian safety signage – MDOT letter request status - Bob had emailed Committee members a copy of a response received from the local Michigan Department of Transportation office indicating the Committee’s letter on additional pedestrian safety signage and pavement markings on City MDOT controlled streets was received, that MDOT had reviewed the problem and will take action in the future.
 - Committee event participation & education – Bike Bus-Walk Week (May 15-21) – Bob reviewed both pedestrian and bicyclist programs being held during this week which appears online at www.bbwypsi.org.
 - Bike Friendly Business program – No new updates.
 - Traffic calming – Depot Town, Congress Street – No new updates.
 - b. I-94/Huron – Huron/Hamilton non-motorized improvements – No new updates.
 - c. Sidewalk snow removal – No new updates.

- d. Non-motorized plan – Bob will meet with City Planner Bonnie Wessler on May 12th to work on the Plan update.
 - e. AAATA Transit Center improvements – Bob earlier had sent Committee members a response from the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority (AAATA) to a Committee letter on non-motorized improvements to the Ypsilanti Transit Center, such as additional bike racks. The AAATA said such improvements as bike racks will take place soon, and other Committee suggestions (wayfinding pedestrian signage, covered bike racks, etc.) will also be reviewed for action.
 - f. EMU students performing traffic counts – Tony reported that he will take up this project again in the fall once the main study body at Eastern Michigan University (EMU) returns.
 - g. Capitol Improvements Plan (CIP) inclusion of non-motorized projects – Tony noted that the City CIP plan will now be updated yearly and he would provide a current CIP projects list to the Committee soon.
5. New Business
- a. Planning Department update – Bob called Bonnie Wessler earlier in the week with items discussed incorporated into the Committee meeting conversations.
6. Other Items – Announcements – None.
7. Adjournment - A motion was made by Sarah, seconded by Martha, to adjourn the meeting, passing unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm with the next meeting being held Thursday, June 2, 7pm at the downtown Library.