

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 7, 2016

1. Call to order – The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm on January 7, 2016 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue. Committee members attending were Tony Bedogne, Martha Cleary, Kelly Cowatch, Bob Krzewinski, Lena Reeves and Sarah Walsh. Also attending was City Council member Pete Murdock.
2. Introductions
 - a. Audience participation/public input – Short discussion on area non-motorized problems.
3. General business
 - a. Agenda approval – A motion was made by Sarah, seconded by Tony, to approve the agenda, passing unanimously.
 - b. Approval of December meeting minutes – A motion was made by Sarah, seconded by Martha, to approve the December meeting minutes, passing unanimously.
 - c. Vice-Chair and Secretary vacancies – Sarah volunteered to serve as Vice Chair of the Committee. The Committee is still in need of a Secretary.
 - d. Officer reports – Bob will send out the Committees 2015 annual report to members for approval within the next week. It will then be forwarded to the Planning Commission and City Council.
 - e. Other – Bob will be out of town for the February 4th meeting and Sarah will run the meeting.
4. Old business
 - a. 2016 Committee priorities
 - Sidewalks – Bob will send out by Facebook/Nextdoor media snow removal reminder to neighborhood groups immediately after the next snowfall. Also discussed relating to snow was the need to shovel curb cuts, the Sheriffs Department snow removal assistance for the elderly and those with disabilities. Bob will also send a message to MDOT on behalf of the Committee requesting action be taken in install curb cuts on Hamilton and Ferris Streets. Martha and Lena will make short videos of the Hamilton/Ferris curb cut problem and pedestrian/wheelchair user crossing problems at Hamilton at Michigan as well as Washington at Cross.
 - Bike lane additions – Forest Avenue bike lanes between Prospect and Norris are on the agenda for spring installation with Bob being in touch with Pete on the process.
 - Border To Border Trail completion progress – Bob is setting up a meeting between the City Planning Department and the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission on re-routing the B2B Trail through Riverside Park to meet up with new Trail construction in Riverside Park and the Water Street area. Bob will also bring up at the meeting potential routes for the B2B from Frog Island to Eastern Michigan University.
 - Walk Friendly & Bike Friendly Community – Sarah will start work on the Walk Friendly re-application. For the Bike Friendly re-application, Tony will work with former Committee member Laura Shiltz on that project.
 - Pedestrian safety signage – Bob still working on MDOT sign improvements.
 - Committee event participation & education – Sidewalk snow removal discussed earlier in the meeting.
 - Bike Friendly Business program – Bob making business visits.
 - Traffic calming – On the need for incorporating Complete Streets into upcoming City street projects, Pete will email a street construction project list to the Committee. Traffic calming on Congress was discussed with Bob writing a letter to the City Manager requesting additional 25mph speed limit signs for that street from Ballard to Summit as well as stop signs at Congress and Normal Streets. Also discussed were permanent, solar powered “speed limit X, are going Y” signs.
 - b. I-94/Huron – Huron/Hamilton non-motorized improvements – No new updates.
 - c. Snow removal – disabled/senior assistance – Discussed earlier in the meeting.
5. New Business
 - a. Planning Department update – Bob talked with Bonnie Wessler in the Planning Department prior to the meeting with information discussed during the meeting.
 - b. Vulnerable User City legislation – Bob working with the League of Michigan Bicyclists to come up with a model Michigan city ordinance (that could be used in Ypsilanti) for vulnerable users (those in wheelchairs, pedestrians and cyclists) that gives the same protection to those users as given to construction workers.

- c. Other – The Eastern Michigan University signaled crossing signal (HAWK) should be installed in the spring. A free bicycle light distribution program was discussed and Bob will contact AAATA for possible involvement and sponsorship.
6. Other Items – Announcements – None.
7. Adjournment – Sarah, seconded by Martha to adjourn the meeting, passing unanimously, made a motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28pm with the next meeting on Thursday, February 4, 7pm at the downtown library.