

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 9, 2020

1. Call to order – The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm, January 9, 2020 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 W. Michigan Avenue. Committee members attending were Jenny Connolly, Helen Schulte, Lee Stimson and Bob Krzewinski. Also attending were City Public Services Department Director Ron Akers and Public Services Department Project Manager Bonnie Wessler.
2. Introductions - Audience participation - Public input – None.
3. Guest presentations – Ron Akers discussed the procedure the City uses for curb cuts and that a good deadline for the Committee to make suggestions being June 1st of every year. Also discussed was the process the City uses for sidewalk snow removal on “City” sidewalks, bike lane restriping (a single contractor does this with worn existing stripes being a priority), glass on bike lanes (reports of glass through City web page [Report An Issue](#) are acted on), radar speed control signs, yearly speed bump installations in the spring and poor road conditions that may not be hazardous for a car tire but can be for someone on a bike (reports should be made to the City through a Report An Issue web page entry).
4. General business
 - a. Agenda approval – A motion was made by Helen, seconded by Lee, to approve the agenda, passing unanimously.
 - b. Approval of December meeting minutes - A motion was made by Helen, seconded by Lee, to approve the December minutes, passing unanimously.
 - c. Bylaws review – Reviewed. No action required.
 - d. Additional Committee member recruitment – No updates.
 - e. Other – 2019 Committee Annual Report – This was reviewed and will be forwarded to the Planning Commission and City Council.
5. Old & continuing business
 - a. 2020 Committee priorities
 1. City Non-Motorized Plan – Jared Talaga and Bob met on January 3rd to review photo sections of the draft update and Jared will be meeting with Bonnie to address various issues.
 2. Sidewalk curb cut inventory & improvements – For a list of curb cut improvements, the Committee has already gathered suggestions from area resident through social media and is now working on site visits of areas that have a high use by pedestrians. Data will be entered into a data base of locations either being on a State route (i.e. Huron, Hamilton streets), route eligible for federal assistance (i.e. River Street, Grove Road) or City street (i.e. Pearl Street, Roosevelt Street).
 3. Pedestrian Improvements – (Signage, road markings, permanent radar speed signs at select locations, Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacon, traffic calming. Concentrate on where most pedestrian activity occurs) – Non-Motorized improvement plans for Huron Street, Hamilton Street and Washtenaw Avenue go before the Downtown Development Authority at their monthly public meeting, Thursday, January 16th, 8:30am at Spark East, 215 W. Michigan and also at the January 21st City Council meeting, 7pm at City Hall.

4. Bike Lanes – West Cross Street (Elbridge Street to the western City limit) bike lane expansion, along with pedestrian improvements, still on track for 2021. Short discussion was held on other forms of bicycle on road facilities other than bike lanes and neighborhood connectors (bike boulevards).
5. Communication & Education – Committee quarterly newsletter will be published by the end of January. City Council, Planning Commission, Sustainability Commission, DDA agendas are being reviewed for possible Committee input at their meetings. Committee will send out reminders about sidewalk cleaning for snow after any major snow event.
6. Non-Motorized City budget – No update.
7. Neighborhood Connectors - Low-speed street which has been "optimized" for bicycle & walking traffic. Potential projects: Adams (Cross to Forest), Pearl (Hamilton to Mansfield), 2nd Avenue (Michigan to Watling). – During the meeting this subject was discussed with research for a first project being discussed in January and February.
8. Border To Border Trail Gap (B2B) – Construction on track for 2020 on Frog Island and Grove Road improvements. Work on the I-94/Grove Road bridge will continue into 2021. Bonnie will check into the installation of “State Law – Stop For Pedestrians In Crosswalk” signs at mid-block B2B Trail crossing of Cornell Street between Collegewood and Mayhew.
9. Bike & Walk Friendly Communities - Submit Walk Friendly Community application when Non-Motorized Plan update complete. Start In March the award renewal process for the Bike Friendly Community (BFC) award recertification (current BFC award expires in November 2021).
10. Events & Community Outreach – Cold weather cycling talks were given at the downtown Library and Corner Brewery during December.
11. Safe Routes To School – Work slowly moving forward with rejuvenating a Safe Routes to School program.

- b. Parkridge bike repair station – Bob forwarded information to City on ordering and installing a repair station should a grant become available.
- c. Pedestrian Crossing Legislation – Little movement on Michigan legislation HB 4738 (Representative Ronnie Peterson - lead).

6. New Business

- a. Planning Department/Public Works update – Open house on proposed non-motorized improvements to Huron Street, Hamilton Street and Washtenaw Avenue on December 19th at the Freighthouse was very well attended.
7. Other Items – Announcements – Bob will be out of the area until mid-February and upon discussion, the next meeting of the Committee is planned for Thursday, March 5, 7pm at the downtown Library main floor meeting room.
8. Adjournment - A motion was made by Helen, seconded by Lee, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.