

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 5, 2020

1. Call to order - The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm at the Ypsilanti City Hall, 1 South Huron Street. Committee members attending were Jenny Connolly, Dylan Goings, Helen Schulte, Lee Stimson, Sarah Walsh, Jared Walfish and Bob Krzewinski. Also attending were City Public Services Department Project Manager Bonnie Wessler, City Planner Andy Aamodt and City Council member Steve Wilcoxon.
2. Introductions - Audience participation - Public input – None
3. Guest presentations – None
4. General business
 - a. Agenda approval - A motion was made by Dylan, seconded by Helen, to approve the agenda, passing unanimously.
 - b. Approval of January meeting minutes - A motion was made by Jenny, seconded by Helen, to approve the January minutes, passing unanimously.
 - c. Bylaws review – Bylaws were reviewed and it was also noted that Jared Talaga’s term of office end May 31, 2020 with Bob contacting Jared to see if he wants to serve another term.
 - d. Additional Committee member recruitment – Diana Gonzolez is interested in serving on the Committee.
5. Old & continuing business
 - a. 2020 Committee priorities
 1. City Non-Motorized Plan – Complete update – Bonnie will send text of the draft Plan update to Committee members and meet with Jared Talaga to complete the draft.
 2. Sidewalk curb cut inventory & improvements
 - Create an annual City Curb Cut Priority List - Site visit list volunteers assigned sections of the City with high pedestrian traffic. At the April meeting, data will be reviewed to assemble a priority list.
 - Create a City Curb Cut deficiency list – No action yet.
 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)
 - Continue current efforts with MDOT on in-City State Route pedestrian improvements (i.e. Huron, West Cross, Washtenaw, Hamilton, Michigan). Bonnie reported that “gateway” (in- road “give way to pedestrians”) signs should be installed at Pearl/Huron and Cross/Adams this year.
 - Install permanent (i.e. solar powered) radar speed signs at locations with a high incidence of speeding (i.e. southbound Prospect south of Holmes, Mansfield both directions near schools) – Bob will meet with Bonnie about this.
 - Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacon (RRFB) demonstration project – RRFB will be part of the West Cross reconstruction starting in the late spring of 2020.
 4. Bike Lanes
 - West Cross Street – City Council approved construction contract with MDOT at it’s March 3rd meeting (Dylan attended the meeting to give Committee support) with construction starting in the spring of 2020. Also discussed was a long-term goal of having bike improvements going further west on Cross/Packard to Ann Arbor.

- Harriet/Spring/Factory/Maus – No action
 - Spring repainting of existing bike lanes – Bob will check with Public Services about painting schedule along with the possibility of “buffering” some lanes from traffic.
5. Communication & Education
 - Invite Mayor, City Council, Planning/Sustainability Commission members, City Manager, Police Chief, Public Services Director to Committee meetings - Bob will invite Sustainability Commission members to future Committee meeting.
 - Publish quarterly Non-Motorized Committee newsletter – Draft to be completed by 3/15.
 - Review City Council, Planning Commission (3rd Wednesday), Sustainability Commission (2nd Monday) agendas for possible Committee input at their meetings. – Continuing review.
 - Spring bicycle safety education program for both motorists and bicyclists – Committee will again sponsor a Bike To Work Day (5/15) bike commuter station at Beezy’s from 7-9am.
 - Sidewalk/Curb Cut vegetation (summer) snow removal (winter) promotion by Committee – Continuing.
 - Amplify public notice of Commission/City Council projects that impact non-motorized activities
 6. Non-Motorized City budget – Determine yearly, non-motorized project funding amount available. Committee involvement in CIP review and non-motorized project funding disbursement decisions – No action.
 7. Neighborhood Connectors - Low-speed street which has been "optimized" for bicycle & walking traffic. Discussed with plans to place Neighborhood Connectors into the draft City Non-Motorized Plan update and also look into Bike Ypsi offering an April bike ride to explore possible Neighborhood Connector routes. Also, curb cuts and sidewalks along any Connector route would be evaluated for pedestrian/disabled users.
 8. Border To Border (B2B) Trail gap completion and enhancement.
 - Support City and Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission efforts to complete the Trail through the City – City received a grant to place a bike repair station at the north end of Frog Island along the Trail. Also being reviewed is Trail lighting for the Frog Island segment.
 - Install “State Law – Stop For Pedestrians In Crosswalk” signs at mid-block B2B Trail crossing of Cornell Street between Collegewood and Mayhew – Bob will check on this.
 9. Bike & Walk Friendly Communities
 - Submit Walk Friendly Community application when Non-Motorized Plan update complete
 - Bike Friendly Community (BFC) award recertification (current BFC award expires in November 2021) – Bob will email BFC application data to Committee members and start to set up a BFC subcommittee to work on the BFC renewal application.
 - Bike Friendly Business program drive – Bob passed out written information about the program and will convey more information by email about starting up the program again.
 10. Events & Community Outreach – B2B Trail walks, cold weather cycling talks, EMU August Bike Rodeo, Parkridge Festival, Halloween safe trick-or-treating. Seek grants for helmet giveaways for events the Committee is at. – Bob will look into helmet give-away donors for the August Parkridge Festival. Also, in place of Bike To Work Week in mid-May, Ypsilanti will have from May 10-16 “Bike Bus Walk Week, urging area residents to try and use alternative transit (biking, walking and taking a bus) during the week.

11. Safe Routes To School – No action.

- b. Parkridge bike repair station – The City received a grant to fund repair stations at Parkridge Community Center, the Senior Center and Frog Island park.
- c. Pedestrian Crossing Legislation – Michigan HB 4738 (Representative Ronnie Peterson) – Bill has not had any movement since June 2019 when it was referred to the State Committee On Transportation.
- d. Other – Lee was looking into a bike check-out program by the Library but no agreement was reached.

6. New Business

- a. Planning Department update – Andy gave a short update.

7. Other Items – Announcements – Next meeting – Next meeting will be April 2nd at the downtown library.

8. Adjournment – A motion was made by Lee, seconded by Sarah, passing unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.