

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 22, 2020, 7:00pm – Teleconference Meeting

1. Call to order – The meeting was brought to order at 7:03pm by teleconference. Committee members attending were Jenny Connolly, Renee Echols, Bob Krzewinski, Sarah Walsh, and Jared Walfish. Also attending were Mike Davis (City Planning Commission), Jared Talaga (City Planning Commission) City Public Services Department Project Manager Bonnie Wessler, City Planner Andy Aamodt, and City Clerk Andrew Hellenga.
2. Introductions - Audience participation - Public input - None
3. Guest presentations – None
4. General business
 - a. Agenda approval – Offered By: Committee member Connolly; Seconded By: Committee Member Walsh. Approved: Yes – 5; No – 0.
 - b. Approval of March meeting minutes - Offered By: Committee member Walsh; Seconded By: Committee member Walfish. Approved: Yes – 5; No – 0.
 - c. Bylaws review and Committee status – Bob Krzewinski reported Committee member Lee Stimpson resigned on June 10, 2020, Jared Talaga’s term ended May 31, 2020 but will still be assisting the Committee, Mike Davis will be taking the place of Jared Talaga as Planning Commission liaison to the Committee (to be formally approved at the next Planning Commission meeting) and Renee Echols who’s nomination to serve on the Committee was approved by the Planning Commission at its June 17, 2020 meeting. Also City resident Diana Gonzalez is interested in serving on the Committee pending Planning Commission approval).
 - d. Proposed Committee by-laws change – Quorum needed for meetings – After discussion, a motion was made by Committee member Krzewinski; Seconded by Committee member Connolly to amend the Committee bylaws to add item 2.d to read “A quorum shall consist of a majority of the current Committee members”. Approved: Yes – 5; No – 0. This bylaws addition will be forwarded to the Planning Commission for their approval.
5. Old & continuing business
 - a. 2020 Committee priorities
 1. City Non-Motorized Plan – Committee members will meet with Bonnie Wessler and Jared Talaga in July to work towards a final draft of the Plan Update to be presented to the Committee at its next meeting. Bob Krzewinski will survey possible meeting times.
 2. Sidewalk curb cut inventory & improvements
 - Curb Cut Priority List – Draft list of recommended curb cuts discussed with any further recommendations or revisions to Bob Krzewinski by Friday, June 26th at noon as the list will be forwarded to City Public Services Department that afternoon.
 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 Wessler reported Huron/Hamilton/Washtenaw rebuilding with non-motorized improvements (including the bridge on Huron over I-94 – go to page 12 [of this link](#)) on track for 2022 construction by the Michigan Department of Transportation.
 - 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) – No new updates.
 4. Bike Lanes
 - Spring repainting of existing bike lanes - No new updates.

5. Communication & Education

- Publish quarterly Non-Motorized Committee newsletter – Summer edition to be published in July.
- Review City Council, Planning Commission, Sustainability Commission agendas for possible Committee input at their meetings – Continues to be done by Bob Krzewinski
- Spring/summer safety education program for both motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists – Bob Krzewinski will work on publicizing motorists giving cyclists 3 feet of clearance.
- Sidewalk/Curb Cut vegetation (summer) snow removal (winter) promotion by Committee – Facebook/Nextdoor social media posts to neighborhood groups from Committee urging summer trim-backs of sidewalk vegetation.

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 new updates.

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). Mike Davis and Bob Krzewinski will do some bicycle scouting trips over the next month of possible Connector routes. A map of a potential Ypsilanti Neighborhood Connector routing is at https://drive.google.com/open?id=18-2nSj-R_T2goLtaSWfzF6Alyza1yv7&usp=sharing

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 – Groundbreaking event was held the afternoon for June 22 with construction starting by the end of June.
- Install “State Law – Stop For Pedestrians In Crosswalk” signs at mid-block B2B Trail crossing of Cornell Street between Collegewood and Mayhew - No new update.

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) – At the next meeting action should start taking place to form a subcommittee to reapply in November 2021. Bike Friendly Community application information is at <https://bikeleague.org/content/about-bfc-application-process> (click on “Returning Applicants” for background information). For the actual application download (in Word) visit https://bikeleague.org/sites/default/files/BFC_Application_Fall_2020.docx
- Bike Friendly Business program drive – No new updates.

10. Events & Community Outreach – EMU August 1st Bike Rodeo, Parkridge Festival. Seek grants for helmet giveaways for events the Committee is at. - EMU Bike Rodeo is Saturday, August 1st, 9am to noon at Gene Butman Ford, 2105 Washtenaw Avenue. Bob Krzewinski will have a Committee table at the Bike Rodeo and additional volunteers would be helpful. Parkridge Festival in late August is cancelled due to the pandemic in 2020. Grants for helmets at outreach events still needed.

11. Safe Routes To School – Group reorganizing in the Ypsilanti area.

b. Parkridge, Frog Island, Senior Center bike repair stations – Bonnie Wessler ordered these racks through a City grant. EMU looking at donating the existing bike repair station at the old College of Business downtown and moving it to either the AAATA Transit Center or the downtown Library.

c. Pedestrian Crossing Legislation – Michigan HB 4738 (Representative Ronnie Peterson) – No new action on this legislation since June 20, 2019. Unless approved, legislation will die when the current Michigan legislature adjourns by the end of 2020.

6. New Business

a. Planning - Public Services Departments update – Seasonal speed bumps are being installed in mid to late June due to pandemic staffing problems earlier in the year at Public Services.

b. Bonnie Wessler is looking at the possibility of creating some short term demonstration projects in the City and was gauging interest from the Committee. Both Renee Echols and Bob Krzewinski were interested. Bob Krzewinski mentioned Chelsea is involved in such a project now (<http://www.miwats.org/watsblog/2020/6/19/a-tactical-urbanism-demonstration-project>).

7. Other Items – Announcements – Next meeting – Going back to the traditional meeting date (1st Thursday) would involve a meeting close to July 4th when many will be out of town. With that in mind the next scheduled meeting will be Thursday, August 6, 7pm.
8. Adjournment - Offered By: Committee member Connolly; Seconded By: Committee Member Walfish. Approved: Yes – 4; No – 0. Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.