

Minutes of the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB) Meeting, 21 April 2016.

Present: Jim Bruce, Amanda Potter-Cole, Emily Walter, Michael Yoder, Matthew Murphy, Bethany Stovall, Scott Lucas, and Mark Voyles. Guests in Attendance: Officer Thomas Cole, Jack Branscum (Street Department), Emily Kleinfelter (Ex-officio member representing colleges)

Absences: David Barber, Greg Reddin

The meeting began at 6:00 PM

1. March Minutes. Emily Walter made a motion to approve. Matthew Murphy seconded. Motion passed.
2. February Minutes: Jim Bruce made a motion to approve. Emily Walter seconded. Motion passed.
3. Membership Opening. Felicia from the Mayor's Office sent out a press release regarding the opening on BPAB. No applications have been received yet, though applications are expected. Discussion occurred about the preference for recruiting someone with grant writing skills, given that Safe Routes to School offers such opportunities. Emily Walter to put together a list of the desired skill set for the next member of the board.
4. Calendar Review. Five people completed the bicycle safety course, Traffic Skills 101, that Jim Bruce and Peter Mehl (both League Cycling Instructors) offered on April 16. The next offering is October 22, 2016, and the course is free of charge for CAB Board and BPAB members as well as to Conway public officials. Although BPAB will not have a chance to participate in Toad Suck Daze this year, there nonetheless are other events planned, including Bike Month (May) and Bike to School Day.
5. Update on Implementation of Bicycle Master Plan (BMP). Jack Branscum provided an update of bicycle and pedestrian design guidelines. Finley Vinson and Mayor Townsell will look to Metroplan for guidance, but the progress toward getting the latter's feedback is slow. Therefore, Conway will come up with its own design guidelines. Amanda Potter Cole reiterated the need for funding for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. One example of achieving this is to work with other boards and committees that have overlapping interests, such as the new Arts Committee.
6. Bicycle Friendly Community Application Feedback. Jim Bruce submitted a copy of the feedback from the League of American Bicyclists. Among the latter's recommendations are that bicycle safety be included in school curricula. Thus, it would be good to have more outreach with the school district, and more board membership directly related to the schools.

7. Bike to School Day. Emily Walter led the discussion. Dr. Bishop of the School Board sent a notice to all elementary schools about the May 8 event, along with statements about the benefits of the event. Ida Burns and Theodore Jones will not participate this year, which leaves seven other possible elementary schools. Emily is lining up volunteers to run it. She has three who have committed already, and is seeking four additional volunteers. Coloring books will be available and distributed. Jim Bruce indicated that a bike rodeo will occur that day. Emily to post photos on social media.

8. New Business.

a. ArCop Summit. Amanda Potter Cole discussed the summit on April 5 at UCA, which included the health benefits of exercise. Goals for communities to strive for include bicycling, so Jim Bruce and Amanda offered a bike rodeo. Conway and Faulkner County are already designated as having "Growing Healthy Community" (GHC) status. UCA and Conway Regional Hospital also had their own GHC presence at the summit.

b. Amanda Potter Cole was contacted by a student attending Hendrix College who would like to make a presentation for her urban community class. The members of the class need to interview an expert, such as a BPAB member, and to make a presentation to such an expert regarding alternative forms of transportation (to the automobile). Emily Kleinfelter is taking the lead on this and has interviewed Wes Craiglow. Another class member will interview Michael Yoder.

c. Jack Branscum provided an update on Sixth Street development. The original plan is interrupted by a water main on the north side, which conflicts with proposed storm drainage. Several alternative options are being looked at. One possibility is to remove the five-foot bike lane and add a ten-foot shared use path instead. Another is to change the median from 14 feet to eight feet, and leave the five-foot bike lane as is. A third alternative is to move the water line to keep the current design, though this option is likely too costly. Any board member of BPAB who would like to weigh in on this issue is encouraged to do so.

9. College/University Advisory Committee Updates. Emily Kleinfelter informed the board that Hendrix College is applying for Bicycle Friendly University (BFU) status. This is part of her capstone thesis project. She indicated an intention of interested cyclists at Hendrix to hold a bicycle registration drive during orientation week. The film "Bikes Versus Cars" will be shown at Hendrix on May 1, 2016.

10. Adjournment. Michael Yoder made the motion, Mark Voyles seconded. The meeting concluded at 7:23 PM.