

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB)
Minutes of the August 18, 2016 Meeting
Conway Fire Department Conference Room
The Meeting commenced at 6:03

Board Members Present: Amanda Potter Cole, Jim Bruce, Scott Lucas, Bethany Stovall, Mark Voyles, Michael Yoder, David Barber.

Board Members Absent: Emily Walter, Matt Murphy

Guests: Mayor Tab Townsell, Jack Branscum (Streets Department), Todd Ake.

1. Minutes of the June Meeting. Jim Bruce made a motion to approve as edited. Mark Voyles seconded. Motion passed.

2. Board Openings. One position is for a SRTS advocate, and one is a general opening. Scott Lucas mentioned that he has someone in mind for the regular position and will follow up. A SRTS advocate still needs to be identified.

3. Calendar Review.

a. Given that there was no July meeting, no efforts have been made to participate in Conway Daze at UCA, which was scheduled this week. Because of the rain, the event has been postponed until August 25, though it probably is too late for BPAB to set up a table. On Wednesday, August 31, Hendrix will host a Service Fair. Jim Bruce will provide information to BPAB board members.

b. Walk to School Day. Discussion occurred about our budget. BPAB does not have sufficient funds to purchase promotional materials to give away.

4. Budget Requests: Money will be needed to maintain and restock the bicycle trailer. We presently have no funds. Mayor Townsell indicated that he will work with Council to keep funding available to BPAB, but it is unlikely that the formula BPAB proposed in the Bicycle Master Plan (BMP) could be followed. Mayor Townsell would like to pass a budget that is the City's plan, rather than BPAB's. He feels that a dedicated BPAB employee is not fiscally realistic, though a present employee could be identified (from the Street Department or the Planning Department). Todd Ake will change the appropriate language in the BMP.

5. Old Business.

a. Markham Street Project. Mayor Townsell indicated that the old metal recycling plant needs to be cleaned up. The process is slow. Once completed, the project will have low-impact development with traffic calming, much like South Main in Little Rock. The latter includes low-impact parking, more pedestrian infrastructure, narrower car lanes, and appropriate drainage management. Bicycle infrastructure is still to be determined.

b. Mayor Townsell talked about improving the process by which Council approves BPAB ideas, or better said, improvement to the ways BPAB is included in Council initiatives. The intention is to have BPAB review some of the more prominent projects

brought up by Council, but in such a way that there is time for BPAB to consider them. One example includes street cross-section designs for new road projects and renovations. There are multiple “model” cross-section designs that could be included in master street plans. It is not logistically possible for BPAB to review every project; however, Mayor Townsell would like BPAB to provide examples of cross-section designs that have actually been passed and that work in other cities.

c. Surveys. Amanda Potter Cole provided a draft of the new version of the survey, and she would like input regarding revisions, edits, and items to add. For example, if the survey is delivered on line, it might include illustrations for citizens to have a better idea of technical questions and different street design ideas, for example. Mayor Townsell indicated that data derived from surveys would be helpful for making cases to Council. The draft survey will be revisited.

d. Mayor Townsell is promoting the idea of using the Strava running and cycling app. The data collected from this app could be quite useful to the City, as it would indicate where people are running and/or cycling. The City is partnering with UCA, Hendrix, and Conway Regional Hospital to bring about bike share programs that implement GPS and Strava in “smart bikes.” This would be paid for by the A&P (“hamburger”) tax. For a pilot project involving 20 bikes, the cost would be \$36,000.00 per year for three years. “Smart locks” would be involved such that fixed bicycle stations would not be necessary.

e. The 2015 Annual Report still needs to be completed.

6. Mayoral Candidate Forum and bicycling/pedestrianism. Mayor Townsell believes it would be more expedient to have CAB organize and host such a forum.

7. Right of Ways of Tucker Creed Trail crossings of major streets. Jack Branscum indicated that the crossing at Salem is not yet finished because it’s signal is more extensive (including an actual red light) than those on College and Hogan (which include yellow warning lights). The crossing at College is in fact a cross walk, so motorists are absolutely obligated to stop when people are in the crosswalk. In all cases, pedestrians and cyclists need to push the button to invoke the flashing warning lights.

8. Walk to School Day is October 5.

9. Meeting adjourned at 7:33. Michael Yoder motioned; Mark Voyles seconded. Passed unanimously.