

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 5, 2015

1. Call to order – The meeting, held at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue, Ypsilanti, was brought to order at 7:05pm. Committee members present were Tony Bedogne, Kevin Hill, Bob Krzewinski and Cheryl Weber. Also attending was City Councilman Pete Murdock.
2. Introductions
 - a. Audience participation/public input – None.
3. General business
 - a. Agenda approval – A motion was made by Tony Bedogne, seconded by Cheryl Weber, to accept the agenda with no objections.
 - b. Approval of February meeting minutes – A motion was made by Cheryl Weber, seconded by Tony Bedogne, to approve the February meeting minutes with no objections.
 - c. New Committee members – Bob Krzewinski indicated that in communications with Committee member Laura Schlitz, she has recently moved out of Ypsilanti and can no longer serve on the Committee. The Committee expressed their thanks for Laura's contributions to the Committee and wished her the best. Bob Krzewinski will start work on finding a replacement Committee member.
4. Old business
 - a. 2015 Committee priorities
 - Ypsilanti bicycling/walking map – Tony Bedogne indicated that the map working group he sits on has nearly completed a new County bike map with Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor expanded sections. Printing and initial distribution is expected before mid-May's Bike To Work Week. The map will also be online. Tony also will communicate with Kevin Hill about the cost of obtaining a local supply of the maps, perhaps through DDA contributions.
 - Border To Border Trail completion progress – The revised Riverside Park south to Grove Road sections revised plan is still being reviewed by the Michigan DNR and once approved will go out for rebidding.
 - Update the City Non-Motorized Plan – An initial revision of the Plan was completed by Gregg May, an intern working with the City Planning Department. Tony Bedogne did a review of this first draft and Bob Krzewinski will complete a review by early next week. Tony will also set up a meeting in the near future between himself, Gregg, Bob and Bonnie Wessler from the Planning Department. It was also suggested to include more sidewalk information in the Plan, as well as an addendum listing completed items from the original 2010 Plan.
 - Sidewalk/pedestrian improvements and funding sources. – Bob Krzewinski discussed the letter sent to the City Manager and Traffic Review Committee listing pedestrian safety signage requests. Also discussed was the letter from the Committee to the City Manager urging sidewalk gaps at Candy Cane and Edith Hefley Parks be included in the City Capitol Improvement Plan, of which Tony Bedogne, as a member of the Planning Commission, is also providing input on.
 - Work to add additional bike lanes and find funding sources –The Committee send a letter to the Planning Commission urging that bike lanes for Prospect Road, West Cross Street and Miles Street be included in the City Capitol Improvement Plan and a recommendation that these lanes be budgeted for construction in 2015. Pete Murdock is very interested in these three bike lanes and Bob Krzewinski will be in contact with Pete about possible spring action through City Council.

- Bike Friendly Business program – Bob Krzewinski will check with Depot Town Association representatives about program window sticker contributions as well as an updated cost from Standard Printing. Kevin Hill will coordinate contribution checks for printing from the DDA and Downtown Association of Ypsilanti. Program business interviews are planned for April with a formal media announcement during May's Bike Bus Walk Week.
 - Public education outreach to encourage bicycling and walking – No new updates.
 - Traffic Calming In Neighborhoods – The Planning Department and City Council have not taken any new action on a traffic calming policy. Bob Krzewinski will look into setting up a list of possible traffic calming options open to the City (i.e. lower speed limits, bump-outs, staggered vehicle parking, street speed limit painting, etc.).
 - Walk Friendly & Bike Friendly Community Applications – Minutes from the last City Bike Friendly Community application meeting (2/25/15) with the next meeting being May 5th). There has been no word yet on the Walk Friendly Community application.
 - Wayfinding signage – Discussion was held on creating a pedestrian signed suggested route between Eastern Michigan University and Depot Town/downtown. Kevin Hill and Bob Krzewinski will conduct a walking inspection once the majority of the recent snowfalls has melted.
- b. I-94/Huron non-motorized improvements – The City Council, at its 3/3/15 meeting, approved a plan for road diets (lane reductions, bike lanes, pedestrian enhancements) for Hamilton Street, Huron Street and Washtenaw Avenue (between College Place and Hamilton). City Council also approved a revised non-motorized crossing plan for the Huron Street bridge over I-94. Both actions have been reviewed by MDOT and are being planned for 2016 construction.
- c. Ypsilanti AAATA Transit Center non-motorized improvements – Bob Krzewinski drafted a letter to the AAATA requesting non-motorized improvements, to which Cheryl Weber, as a member of the AAATA Local Advisory Council, passed on to AAATA staff. Cheryl will also pass on the link to an AAATA survey being taken on improvements to the AAATA that will be distributed by the Committee.

5. New Business

- a. Planning Department update – Bob Krzewinski met with Bonnie Wessler prior to the Committee meeting on non-motorized issues with subjects discussed contained in the meeting minutes.
- b. Mayors' Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets – The Committee gave its concurrence to urge that the Mayor enroll the City in this program designed to lower pedestrian and bicyclist injuries. Bob Krzewinski will follow up with the Mayor.
- c. May 10-16 Bike-Bus-Walk Week (including Ghost Bikes, Bike To Work Day) – A tentative schedule events was distributed with the intent of the week being to urge people to try alternative transportation for a week in the hope that this becomes a year long habit.
- d. Annual report – The Committee concurred that the 2014 annual report should be sent on to the Planning Commission, City Council and be posted on the Committee's City web page.
- e. Other – Bob Krzewinski will check with EMU on the status of a possible bike-share (short term rental) program.

6. Other Items – Announcements – None.

7. Adjournment – A motion was made by Tony Bedogne, seconded by Kevin Hill, to adjourn the meeting with no objections. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm. The next Committee meeting is Thursday, April 2, 2015.

