

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2012

1. Call to order – The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm, Thursday, March 1, 2012 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue, Ypsilanti, Michigan. Committee members attending were Adam Gainsley, Kevin Hill, Bob Krzewinski, Richard Murphy and Cheryl Weber
2. Introductions
 - a. Audience participation – None
3. General business
 - a. Agenda approval – Motion by Cheryl Weber to approve the agenda, seconded by Kevin Hill, approved unanimously.
 - b. Approval of February meeting minutes Motion by Cheryl Weber to approve the agenda, seconded by Kevin Hill, approved unanimously.
 - c. Committee communications received – Bob Krzewinski reported receiving an email from a handicapped Ypsilanti resident who gave input into the problems they have encountered locally. Bob invited this person to future Non-Motorized Committee meetings.
 - d. Other – Adam Gainsley indicated that he will be on the Board of the Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition.
4. Old business
 - a. Complete Streets improvements update (sharrows, mid-block pedestrian crossings, share-the-road sign locations, bus stops) – Bonnie Wessler of the City Planning Department indicated that bicycle symbol signs have been ordered to appear above or below the recently installed “share the road” signs and will be installed over the next few months.
 - b. Downtown bike routes-signage-maps – Adam Gainsley is researching resources for a Ypsilanti-specific bicycle map and will contact Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission staff for their input.
 - c. Additional bike parking hoop locations – Bonnie Wessler indicated that it might be best to contact the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Association (DDA) for possible funding of additional bicycle racks. To this extent, Bob Krzewinski will research rack costs and provide this information to Kevin Hill who will present this data to the DDA. Bonnie also indicated that the AATA will be doing improvements to the Ypsilanti Transit Center in the fall of 2012 and this might be a good opportunity to have AATA install extra racks there. Cheryl Weber will bring this item up in meetings she has planned with the AATA and also mention bus stop improvements needed at Washtenaw and Mansfield Streets.
 - d. Additional Committee members – Committee member terms-of-office – The Committee reached a consensus that when all current Committee member terms expire in January 2013 that ½ of the people appointed will serve for one year and the other ½ serve for two years so expirations of members terms are staggered. Bob Krzewinski will convey this recommendation to the Planning Commission for action no later than December 2012. It was noted also that Adam Gainsley’s appointment to the Committee was approved unanimously by the Planning Commission. Concerning additional Committee members, new members are always encouraged but the Committee also feels it is important to establish a list of “Non-Motorized Project Volunteers” who are not officially on the Committee, but under the supervision of a Board member, can work on non-motorized projects. Bob Krzewinski will put out a request for such volunteers and keep a list of individuals.
 - e. Non-Motorized year end task report approval – The Committee was very appreciative of the editing work Bonnie Wessler did on the Committee year-end report. A motion was made by Kevin Hill to approve the report, seconded by Adam Gainsley, passing unanimously.
 - f. City Non-Motorized web page – Items from the old City web page are being transferred to the new City web page and the Non-Motorized Committee page has yet to be moved. Bob Krzewinski will monitor the progress and inform Committee members when a new Non-Motorized page is up.
 - g. 2012 Non-Motorized Committee Priorities – After discussion, project priorities for 2012, in addition to current active projects, will include Border To Border Trail projects (i.e. Michigan Avenue crossing and Water Street), sidewalk improvements, a Ypsilanti bicycle map, I-94 non-motorized crossings and the League of American Bicyclists Bike Friendly Community application for Ypsilanti.
 - h. Police enforcement of darkened drivers windows – Bob Krzewinski will forward a memo from the Committee to the Planning Commission to be forwarded to the Police Department urging

enforcement of illegally tinted car windows which prevent bicyclists and motorists from making safety-related eye contact (i.e. "I see you, you see me").

5. New Business

- a. Support letter – Grant application for Water Street Border To Border Trail – A support letter was approved from the Committee for a Michigan DNR Natural Resources Trust Fund application for funds to build the Border To Border Trail from Michigan Avenue to Grove Road. The letter will be forwarded to the Planning Commission and Planning Department.
- b. By-laws updates – At the present time there are no real by-laws for the Committee, but there is a Committee Policy and Procedures document that has been approved by the Planning Commission. At the present time there were no recommendations to change this document by the Committee although it has been noted that the position of Committee Vice-Chair and Secretary are currently unfilled.
- c. Bike To Work Week – Bob Krzewinski went over the 2011 Ypsilanti version of Bike To Work Week (May 13-19 in 2012), named Bike-Bus-Walk Week. Bob will coordinate events again for 2012.
- d. Mix market involvement – Bob Krzewinski will talk with the Ypsi Mix Market coordinators to see if there is interest in a non-motorized information table some Saturday.
- e. Street speed limit increases – There was a general consensus that plans to raise the speed limit on Huron and Hamilton Streets from 30mph to 40mph would be dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists and just encourage even faster vehicle speeds. Committee members will attend the public information meeting on March 5th on this matter.
- f. Other – Kevin Hill indicated that the DDA will be conducting a parking survey in the City and will work to include a question or two about bicycle parking and commuting.

6. Major project working groups

- a. Complete Streets subcommittee – No new updates.
- b. Sidewalks subcommittee – More time will be spent at the April Committee meeting on sidewalk deficiencies and how to make improvements.
- c. Non-motorized projects list subcommittee – No new updates.

7. Other items

- Underground Railroad Bike Route - Bob Krzewinski indicated that the Adventure Cycling organization has just created an Underground Railroad bike tour route through Ypsilanti. Bob will work on media coverage of this new development with possible coverage of long-distance cyclists taking this tour (the route goes from Alabama to Lake Huron in Ontario).
- Federal Non-motorized Funding Legislation – The U.S. House Of Representatives recently passed a federal transportation bill that would basically eliminate funding for non-motorized projects. The Senate is now considering it's own version of a transportation bill. The best updates on the transportation bill would be at the League of American Bicyclists website at www.lmb.org.
- Adam Gainsley will set up a Twitter account for the Committee (i.e. for meeting announcements) and also work on QR codes to publicize the Committee.

8. Adjournment – A motion was made at 8:20pm to adjourn the meeting by Kevin Hill, seconded by Adam Gainsley, and approved unanimously. The next Committee meeting will be Thursday, April 5, 2012, at the Ypsilanti District Library.