

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2014

Ypsilanti District Library, Meeting Room #2 (basement), 229 West Michigan Avenue, downtown Ypsilanti

1. Call to order – The meeting was brought to order at 7:00pm at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue. Committee members present were Tony Bedogne, Diana Gonzalez, Kevin Hill, Bob Krzewinski, and Cheryl Weber. Also present was City Council member Pete Murdock.
2. Introductions
 - a. Audience participation/public Input - None
3. General business
 - a. Agenda approval – A motion was made by Cheryl Weber, seconded by Tony Bedogne, to accept the meeting agenda with no objections.
 - b. Approval of October meeting minutes - A motion was made by Cheryl Weber, seconded by Tony Bedogne, to accept the October minutes with no objections.
4. Old business
 - a. 2014 Committee priorities
 - Bike Friendly Community & Walk Friendly Community applications – News about the Bike Friendly application should be received soon. The Walk Friendly application needs final proof reading and will be sent in November 10th (one month before deadline). Also discussed was the need for local publicity if awards are received so as to encourage more people to bike and walk in Ypsilanti.
 - Ypsilanti bicycling/walking map – Tony Bedogne reported that for bike map revisions, the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (along with the City of Ann Arbor) will be the primary agency. Relating to this, for a new eastern Washtenaw County bike map, the Committee will hold a public input session on Monday, December 8th, 7pm at the Ypsilanti downtown library. Items for walkers will also try to be included in the map, such as how long it takes to walk from certain neighborhoods to downtown/Depot Town in the hope that this would result in more residents walking to locations. Also being researched will be bulk printing costs per map.
 - Border To Border Trail completion progress – Bids came in higher than expected for the new Trail bridge from Riverside Park to Michigan Avenue as well as the Trail segment from Michigan Avenue east to Grove Road. The City is attempting to either work with contractors submitting bids or if that fails, re-bid the project. With that in mind work on the new Trail segment is now expected to start in 2015.
 - Sidewalk improvements – Washtenaw Avenue – North Huron – Catherine Street – Bob Krzewinski will plan to meet with the City Public Services Department for increased safety signage for Catherine Street at Chidister Place.
 - Additional bike lanes – Forest Avenue – West Cross Street – Huron & Hamilton Streets – Bob Krzewinski is working with City Departments on setting up a protocol for creating new bike lanes over the winter, with plans for actual bike lane development in the spring. Also, the County Road Commission is planning to repave Huron River Drive segments east of Hewitt in 2015, going from four lanes to a two-lane/center turn lane/bike lanes configuration.
 - Bike Friendly Business program – The Downtown Development Authority and Downtown Association are expected to share costs for a Program sticker to be displayed in windows of participating merchants. Volunteers will also be needed to visit businesses to process program applications.
 - Public education outreach to encourage bicycling and walking – The Committee will sponsor a “Cold Weather Cycling” talk at the Michigan Avenue Library on Saturday, November 11.
 - Signage/pavement marking improvements – N. Huron & Cross – Hamilton & Michigan – Cross & Washtenaw (EMU) – S. Hamilton mid-block crossing – Huron & Pearl – No new updates.
 - b. I-94/Huron non-motorized improvements – Pete Murdock informed the group that the Michigan Department of Transportation recently gave notice that they cannot support the preferred alternative for this project (center of the bridge crossing) and is concentrating on the 2nd alternative (dedicated non-motorized crossing on west side of the Huron Avenue bridge).
 - c. Upcoming events – There will be a Huron-Hamilton “Road Diet” public hearing sponsored by City of Ypsilanti and the Washtenaw Area Traffic Study (WATS) – Tuesday, December 2nd, Ypsilanti City Hall 7pm. Bob Krzewinski will verify the date.

- d. 2015 Committee Priorities – A list of priorities was discussed with the plan being that Bob Krzewinski will email the list to Committee members to make their online input. Formal adoption of 2015 Committee priorities will take place at the December meeting. It was highly suggested, however, to include sign way finding, especially walking and biking routes from EMU to downtown and Depot Town.
 - e. 2015 Committee Members – Terms end 12/31/14 for Cheryl Weber, Bob Krzewinski, Richard Murphy – Bob Krzewinski is willing to serve another term. Names will be solicited and collected by Bob Krzewinski for new & renewing Committee members by the December Committee meeting so as to be submitted to the City Planning Commission for their approval at the Commission's December 17th meeting.
 - f. Other – The Committee's table at the annual downtown Halloween Festival was very successful (besides donated candy, flyers were given out that had children's coloring pages, puzzles that also had safe trick-or-treating tips).
5. New Business
- a. Planning Department update – Bob Krzewinski met with Bonnie Wessler of the Planning Department on November 6th with information received conveyed in the above meeting agenda items.
6. Other Items – Announcements – There will be a Huron River Watershed Council Ypsilanti Trail Town meeting on Friday, November 07, 2014, 9am at the Michigan Avenue Visitors and Convention Bureau office. Also, the Washtenaw Biking and Walking Coalition will hold its annual membership meeting on November 13th with more details at www.wbwc.org.
7. Adjournment – A motion was made by Tony Bedogne, seconded by Bob Krzewinski, to adjourn the meeting with no objections. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30apm. The next Committee meeting is Thursday, December 4, 2014 at the Michigan Avenue Ypsilanti District Library.