

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 4, 2015

1. Call to order – The meeting was brought to order at 7:05pm, June 4, 2015 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue. Committee members present were Kevin Hill, Bob Krzewinski and Sarah Walsh. Also attending were Martha Cleary (who is interested in serving on the Committee and waiting for confirmation from the Planning Commission) and City Council member Pete Murdock.
2. Introductions
 - a. Audience participation/public Input – Martha Cleary gave a report on current biking and walking conditions in the City and surrounding areas.
3. General business
 - a. Agenda approval – A motion was made by Bob Krzewinski, seconded by Sarah Walsh, to approve the agenda, passing unanimously.
 - b. Approval of May meeting minutes - A motion was made by Bob Krzewinski, seconded by Sarah Walsh, to approve the May meeting minutes, passing unanimously.
 - c. New Committee members – Additional members being solicited.
4. Old business
 - a. 2015 Committee priorities
 - Ypsilanti bicycling/walking map – New map is complete and being slowly distributed. Bob Krzewinski gave City Council member all a copy at their meeting June 2nd. Tony Bedogne is requesting \$324 for 300 local copies with a suggestion that the Ypsilanti Convention and Visitors Bureau contribute \$162 and the Ypsilanti DDA contribute \$162. Kevin Hill suggested Tony contact Tim Colbeck at the DDA to discuss the map funding.
 - Border To Border Trail completion progress – Pete Murdock gave an update on City Council options on funding various B2B segments to be decided when the Council approves a new budget. The first reading of the new budget will be June 9th with a 2nd reading (and adoption) on June 16th. Bob Krzewinski, representing the Committee, spoke before City Council on June 2nd support B2B completion as well as other non-motorized funding and projects.
 - Update the City Non-Motorized Plan – City Planner Bonnie Wessler, Tony Bedogne and Bob Krzewinski continuing to work on this document.
 - Sidewalk/pedestrian improvements and funding sources (sidewalks – signage) – Further action on these items will be determined after the City Council approves a new budget on June 16th. Pete Murdock is supporting a continuation of \$50,000 a year from the City's street budget to be used for non-motorized projects such as these.
 - Work to add additional bike lanes and find funding sources - Further action on these items is expected after the City Council approves a new budget on June 16th. Bike lanes are requested for Forest Avenue, Miles Street and West Cross Street.
 - Bike Friendly Business program – Committee members are making business visits.
 - Public education outreach to encourage bicycling and walking – A children's triathlon will be held at the Rutherford Pool in August which may be a avenue for Committee outreach (Bob Krzewinski will check on details). Also, Bob will check into having a table at the late August Parkridge Summerfest (the Committee participated in 2014), possibly with free bike tune-ups and helmet giveaways. Washtenaw Community College will have a new student day in September which may be also useful for outreach.
 - Traffic Calming In Neighborhoods – City Council will review a traffic-calming ordinance at their June 9th meeting at which Martha Cleary will attend and urge support from the Non-Motorized Advisory Committee.
 - Walk Friendly & Bike Friendly Community Applications – The City was not given a Walk Friendly award in 2015 but the report given by the organization running the Walk Friendly awards will be useful for improvements to be worked on for the next application. For the Bike Friendly application, the Committee will hold a working session on June 10th, 2pm at the Ypsilanti Convention and Visitors Bureau.

- Wayfinding signage – Discussion held on creating small, pedestrian-orientated signs between EMU, downtown and Depot Town. Bob Krzewinski will work on more samples for the next meeting. It was also suggested that merchants (i.e. Ugly Mug) may want to contribute funds.
- b. I-94/Huron – Huron/Hamilton non-motorized improvements – MDOT is requiring more documentation on these projects.
- c. Ypsilanti AAATA Transit Center non-motorized improvements – No new updates.
- d. May 10-16 Bike-Bus-Walk Week report (including Ghost Bikes, Bike To Work Day) – Bob Krzewinski gave a report of activities with an eye for improvements in 2015. Many events suffered because of rain.
- e. Mayors' Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets – Bob Krzewinski will appear before City Council on June 16th to urge Council approval for this US Department of Transportation program to cut pedestrian/bicyclist injuries.

5. New Business

- a. Planning Department update – Bob Krzewinski spoke with City Planner Bonnie Wessler before the meeting with her comments contained in discussions on agenda items at the meeting.
- b. Michigan Department of Transportation “Training Wheels” course report – Bob Krzewinski attended a “Training Wheels” session in Monroe, Michigan in May, which are intended for city & county transportation officials as well as advocacy groups and contain a two-hour class followed by a short bicycle tour highlighting non-motorized amenities. Bob will see if a course could be held in Ypsilanti in 2016.

6. Other Items – Announcements – None.

7. Adjournment – A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Bob Krzewinski, seconded by Sarah Walsh, passing unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm with the next meeting being Thursday, July 2, 2015 at the downtown Library.