

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 3, 2015

1. Call to order – The meeting was brought to order at 7:05pm, December 3, 2015 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue. Committee members attending were Martha Cleary, Kelly Cowatch, Bob Krzewinski, Lena Reeves and Sarah Walsh. Also attending 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 Martha, seconded by Lena, to approve the agenda, passing unanimously.
 - b. Approval of November meeting minutes – A motion was made by Martha, seconded by Lena, to approve the November minutes, passing unanimously.
 - c. Committee members – It was noted that the term of Diana Gonzalez ends at the end of December. Also Bob made an appeal for volunteers to serve as Committee Secretary and Vice-Chair.
4. Old business
 - a. 2015 Committee priorities (abbreviated list)
 - Border To Border Trail completion progress – Once a final set of railing is installed in mid-December, the new B2B bridge from Riverside Park to Michigan Avenue should open. The new Water Street B2B Trail is getting good usage.
 - Update the City Non-Motorized Plan – A last public input session was held just prior (6:30pm) to the start of tonight's Committee meeting. Sarah gave a report on the Plan online survey and will also email a copy to Committee members. City Planner Bonnie Wessler indicated that she should have more time available with recent staff increases and expects the Plan process to be completed by February.
 - Sidewalk/pedestrian improvements and funding sources (sidewalks – signage) – Related to the background data for a letter to MDOT for additional pedestrian safety signage in the City, Bob passed around a 10-year bike/pedestrian incident map from the <http://www.michigantrafficcrashfacts.org>. Bob noted it would be a great job for an intern to investigate all incidents in a report with suggestions for safety improvements.
 - Work to add additional bike lanes and find funding sources – Pete indicated that public input for a planned Forest Avenue bike lane is still expected to take place over the winter months. Pete also gave an update from the latest Washtenaw Area Traffic Study meeting he attended.
 - b. I-94/Huron – Huron/Hamilton non-motorized improvements – Still tentatively planned for the summer of 2017. With a new 5-year Federal transportation funding bill set for approval soon, and a Michigan road funding package, these projects may pick up momentum again.
5. New Business
 - a. Planning Department update – Bob reported on his conversation with City Planner Bonnie Wessler prior to the meeting.

- b. 2016 NMAC priorities – A draft list of possible 2016 priorities of the Committee was completed and attached as a separate document.
 - c. Snow removal – Discussions centered around enforcement and assistance for seniors and the handicapped in keeping their sidewalks clear of snow. Bob will send out a message to neighborhood groups asking if anyone knows of organizations that would assist seniors/handicapped in shoveling. Also Bob will send a message out to neighborhood groups timed with the next large snowfall about the City snow ordinance and reporting problems over the City's new Click Fix public input system (www.cityofypsilanti.com/YpsiConnect).
 - d. Other – Bob will attend City training for the Committee web page. Bob will look into the new Grand Rapids Vulnerable User Law (same penalties that cover injuries to construction workers apply to pedestrians/handicapped/bicyclists).
6. Other Items – Announcements – None.
7. Adjournment – A motion was made by Kelly, seconded by Lena, to adjourn the meeting, passing unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:24pm. The next meeting is Thursday, January 7, at 7pm at the downtown Library.