

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Minutes

1. Call to order – The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm on February 4th, 2016 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue. Committee members attending were Tony Bedogne, Martha Cleary, Lena Reeves and Sarah Walsh.
2. Introductions
 - a. Audience participation/public Input – there was a brief discussion of regional non-motorized problems. Tony will inquire about the existence of non-motorized advisory groups in neighboring communities to see if there are ways to share concerns outside the city limits. Group reminded that self-nominations for the NMAC are due to Bob Krzewinski in advance of the monthly planning commission meeting (3rd Wednesday).
3. General business
 - a. Agenda approval – The agenda was approved by consensus
 - b. Approval of January meeting minutes – A motion was made by Martha, seconded by Tony, to approve the January minutes. Motion carries.
 - c. Secretary vacancies – Still need a volunteer to serve a Secretary
 - d. Officer reports – Bob's actions: Committee Annual Report was completed and reviewed/approved by the Planning Commission at its January 20th meeting and will be posted on the City NMAC web page. Also at the 1/20/2016 Planning Commission meeting, Tony and Martha were reappointed to the Committee for a 2-year term. The new City Non-Motorized web page is up and running but you have to go to the City Planning Commission web page for a link to it. All agendas/minutes are up to date on the web page but some text editing still needs to be done.
4. Old business
 - a. 2016 Committee priorities -
 - Sidewalks – Hamilton/Ferris Curb Cuts – Bob has prepared a letter to MDOT asking for curb cuts is prepared. Bonnie Wessler will review this before sending. Martha provided photographs to submit with the letter. Additionally, the video prepared by Lena, Martha and her daughter to illustrate these concerns is available to post to various social media pages to raise public awareness about the obstacles many members of our community face.
 - Bike lane additions – Tony noted that these additions are still on the agenda for Spring. The group will monitor progress to ensure that implementation moves forward as scheduled.
 - Border To Border Trail completion progress – Bob met with Beth Ernat (City Economic Development), Coy Vaughn (Washtenaw County Parks) and Peter Sanderson (Washtenaw County Parks) on January 21st to discuss moving the B2B off-road through Frog Island and Riverside Parks, as well as completing the gaps from Frog Island to EMU and Grove Road south to I-94. Beth is working on a possible partial Frog Island to EMU idea, and there is general support for routing the B2B through Riverside Park and there will be a follow up meeting in early March between me and Washtenaw County Parks on this re-route. On the

Grove Road gap, Bob will invite the City Manager to the March meeting on this as he was very interested in completing this segment. The group discussed wheelchair accessibility/trip hazards with the Tridge. If the Tridge is included in B2B, it would need accessibility repair. (If it is not part of B2B, we need to identify other options for repair)

- Walk Friendly & Bike Friendly Community – Tony confirmed that he has access to the Bike Friendly Community application – will target November submission and update the group about needed input as that gets closer. A meeting to review the Walk Friendly Community application was scheduled for February 22nd at 7:00 pm at B-24s. All are welcome to attend.
 - Pedestrian safety signage – The MDOT letter going to Bonnie Wessler for review also addresses needed sign improvements. The group discussed the need for signage on Hamilton at Michigan to call attention to the early stop (cars blocking the pedestrian crossing is a common problem)
 - Committee event participation & education – Received word that the Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Club will be donating 60 helmets for our information table at the end-of-August Parkridge Festival. Bike Ypsi Spring Ride is the 1st Sunday of May where the Committee has had an information table in the past. The group agreed to investigate pricing and sources for bike lights for possible distribution at community events. Inexperienced cyclists who ride out of necessity should be a particular target for education efforts.
 - Bike Friendly Business program – Bob made additional business visits in Depot Town in January. A Google spreadsheet is available for tracking efforts if additional members want to visit area businesses about this program. The group will plan for additional visit in the Spring when the weather warms up.
 - Traffic calming – Letter to City Manager is ready to go but we need to get some better photos of the Congress/Normal “stop sign” request intersection as well as suggested additional 25mph speed limit sign locations. Bob agreed to take the photos and send the letter when he returns to town.
- b. I-94/Huron – Huron/Hamilton non-motorized improvements – no new updates
 - c. Snow removal – disabled/senior assistance – Snow removal reminder went out from the Committee to area neighborhood groups on Facebook/Nextdoor after the last big snowfall. After the next snowfall another reminder will be sent out about the Click-Fix reporting system and need to plow curb cuts on corner lots.
 - d. Vulnerable User City legislation – Bob is working with the League of Michigan Bicyclists on model draft legislation for a Michigan city.
 - e. Other – Bob will be attending the February 18th DDA meeting to talk about greater cooperation between the Committee and DDA as well as the Bike Friendly Business program.

5. New Business

- a. Planning Department update – Tony noted that DTE is considering adding a solar panels field next to Highland Cemetery. Adding a non-motorized path to this site would provide an opportunity to connect with the Superior Township greenway. The site plan review is currently scheduled for March and Tony will keep the group apprised of developments.

6. Other Items – Announcements - None

7. Adjournment – Tony, seconded by Martha, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 pm. The motion carried. The next meeting will be Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00 pm.