

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - December 7, 2017

1. Call to order - The meeting was brought to order at 7:10pm, December 7, 2017 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 West Michigan Avenue. Committee members attending were Tony Bedogne, Martha Cleary, Bob Krzewinski and Sarah Walsh. Also attending was Rosie Pahl Donaldson of the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.
2. Introductions
 - a. Audience participation/public input - Rosie gave an overview of the Eastern Washtenaw County Border To Border Trail Master Plan with Committee members giving input on possible Trail routings in the Ypsilanti area.
3. General business
 - a. Agenda approval – A motion was made by Martha, seconded by Sarah, to approve the agenda, passing unanimously.
 - b. Approval of October meeting minutes (no November meeting) – A motion was made by Tony, seconded by Martha, to accept the October minutes, passing unanimously.
 - c. By laws review – It was noted that the Committee Chair position remains the same until 2019 when a new Chair must be appointed by the Planning Commission.
 - d. Committee members - Tony and Martha's Committee terms expire 1/31/2018. Both agreed to another term and Bob will send the recommendation as such to the Planning Commission.
4. Old & continuing business
 - a. 2017 Committee priorities
 - Bike lanes – Complete bike lane on Forest and extend the West Cross bike lane from Wallace Street to the western City limit – No new updates.
 - I-94/Huron non-motorized improvements – No new updates.
 - Border To Border Trail – Trail re-route through Riverside Park & Water Street, Ypsilanti Trail completion master plan – Discussed in agenda item 2.a.
 - Walk Friendly & Bike Friendly Community applications submitted – The Bike Friendly Community (BFC) award will be good for four years. The City sent out press releases for the award but there has not been any mention on WEMU or the Ann Arbor News, to which Bob will send another press release for possible media coverage. Tony and Martha will check into possible City and Downtown Development Authority funding for BFC signs. Ypsilanti did receive an "honorable mention" as a Walk Friendly Community again and will resubmit another application in the summer of 2018.
 - Pedestrian safety signage (including radar speed readout signs) – The minutes of the City Traffic Review Committee on 11/29 were discussed.
 - Sidewalks - Washtenaw Avenue – Fill gaps and bring up to standards sidewalks on both sides of the road from Oakwood Street to Hewitt Road – No new updates.
 - Accessibility in City parks – No new updates.
 - b. 2018 Committee priorities – A motion was made by Sarah, seconded by Martha to approve the 2018 Committee priorities document, passing unanimously. The document will be forwarded on to the Planning Commission, City Council, the Mayor and City Manager.
 - c. Non-Motorized Plan update – Tony is switching jobs but will ramp-up work on the Plan update in a few weeks.
 - d. Traffic calming – Depot Town, Congress Street – Tony will check Planning Commission records as it was understood that the repaving of Summit and Congress Streets would include "Cyclists May Use Full Lane" signs. As it stands there are only a few "Bike Route" signs.
 - e. MDOT improvements (pedestrian signage-curb cuts) – No new updates.
 - f. Downtown Halloween Festival Committee table/handouts – Bob reported that the event was held inside the library due to rain and the Committee table gave out lighted wristbands (courtesy of the AAATA) and safe-trick-or-treating handouts which were very popular.
5. New Business
 - a. Planning Department update – No new updates.
 - b. Other
 - EMU Bike Share – Martha and Sarah gave reports of the meetings and demonstrations of this possible short-term bike rental program in Ypsilanti.

- Winter Biking Talk – Bob will give a talk on December 9th and another in January, at the downtown library. Sarah stated that the EMU police might be interested in having such a talk, as well as other bike safety events, on campus. Bob will contact the EMU Police Department on this.
 - Snow clearing regulations – Once the first substantial snowfall is imminent, Bob will post a reminder on neighborhood group's social media sites about sidewalk snow removal ordinances.
6. Other Items – Announcements – The Bike Ypsi Holiday Lights ride will be held on December 17, 7pm at the Corner Brewery.
7. Adjournment – A motion was made by Sarah, seconded by Tony, to adjourn the meeting, passing unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm with the next meeting being Thursday, January 4 (second Thursday) 2018 at the downtown Library.

City Of Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee 2018 Priorities

Bike lane projects

- Harriet, Spring, Factory, Maus (First to Emerick)
- West Cross (Wallace to western City limit)
- Washtenaw (West Cross to Normal/Emmet) – involves MDOT jurisdiction areas – Thought given to Emmet as preferred eastbound bicycle route from Normal east to Huron.
- Huron/Huron River Drive (Cross to Cornell)

Sidewalk projects

- Disabled access (curb cuts) - involves MDOT jurisdiction areas – Discussion on the need of a City inventory/map of curb cuts especially where there are needed but missing, cuts and curb cuts that need to be rebuilt.
- Washtenaw (EMU to Hewitt) - sidewalk gap completion - involves MDOT jurisdiction area

General projects

- Non-Motorized Plan update completion
- I-94 Huron Street crossing (along with traffic calming on Huron-Hamilton-Washtenaw) - involves MDOT jurisdiction areas
- Border To Border Trail completion
- Bike Friendly/Walk Friendly applications follow up
- Public education/communications (Committee newsletter, social media, snow/vegetation removal)
- Pedestrian safety improvements (signage/markings)
- Traffic calming (additional bump-outs, more radar speed signs, speed bump policy) - involves MDOT jurisdiction area

Task Assignments

What the Committee volunteers can do

- All priorities – Inform Planning Commission, City Council of 2018 priorities.
- Sidewalks – Identify disabled access problem points.
- Sidewalks – Briefing by ReImagine Washtenaw to Committee.
- Bike lanes – Confirm (or add to) in the Capitol Improvement Plan, research street repaving plans, work with neighborhood groups, start to gather public input. Also explore “bicycle boulevards” (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bicycle_boulevard & <https://nacto.org/publication/urban-bikeway-design-guide/bicycle-boulevards/>) for lower traffic roads (i.e. Adams, Emmet) where bike lanes would not be feasible.
- Border To Border Trail completion progress – Promote the Trail and continue to support the work of the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission on the Eastern County B2B Completion Master Plan (i.e. Frog Island to EMU/Water Street to I-94 at Grove Road gaps and more).
- Walk Friendly & Bike Friendly Community Applications – Follow up results from 2017 submissions.
- Committee event participation & education
 - Publish quarterly Committee email newsletter.
 - Information table at Farmer's Markets
 - Street sweeping – Encourage cyclists to report problems with debris through Click Fix.

- Bike Ypsi Spring Ride (first Sunday in May).
- Safe Routes To School – Bike To School Day (first Wednesday of May).
- Bike-Bus-Walk Week – (Bike To Work Week) – Mid-May.
- National Trails Day (1st Saturday of June).
- Parkridge Summer Festival (last Saturday of August).
- Michigan Trails Week (mid-September).
- Safe Routes To School - Walk To School Day (first Wednesday of October).
- DAY Halloween Festival (late October).
- EMU events.
- Sidewalk snow removal.
- Pedestrian safety signage – Work with the City staff and MDOT (where appropriate) for pedestrian safety improvements...
 - Huron to West Cross (MDOT) - rumble strips & blinking “pedestrian crossing” light.
 - Hamilton/Michigan (MDOT) - “stop here on red” and “no turn on red” sign next to signal.
 - Huron/Pearl (MDOT) - enhanced pedestrian crossing signs.
 - West Cross/Washington (MDOT) – enhanced pedestrian crossing signs.
 - Forest/Norris - enhanced pedestrian crossing signs, pavement markings.
 - Washtenaw/College Place/Perrin (MDOT) - enhanced pedestrian crossing signs, pavement markings.

What existing staff can do

- Assist Committee with updating the City Non-Motorized Plan.
- Sidewalk accessibility enforcement - – Vegetation overgrowth, poor pavement condition, snow removal.
- Border To Border Trail completion progress – Continue to work with Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission on the Eastern County B2B Completion Master Plan (i.e. Frog Island to EMU/Water Street to I-94 at Grove Road gaps and more).

What Planning Commission and/or City Council can do

- Pedestrian safety signage – Continue to lobby MDOT to enact pedestrian safety improvements. Purchase signage where possible.
- Sidewalks - Washtenaw Avenue – Complete gaps from Eastern Michigan University to Hewitt.
- Sidewalks – Support reprioritization of sidewalk curb cut improvements.
- Bike lanes – Support Harriet-Spring-Factory-Maus and West Cross bike lanes.
- Traffic calming – Incorporate into Complete Streets City planning for construction. Consider additional bump-outs and radar speed signs.