

Ypsilanti Non-Motorized Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 5, 2019

1. Call to order - The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm, December 5, 2019 at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 W. Michigan Avenue. Committee members attending were Jenny Connolly, Dylan Goings, Helen Schulte, Lee Stimpson, Sarah Walsh, and Bob Krzewinski. Also attending was City Council member Steve Wilcoxon. Jared Talaga and Jared Walfish both indicated prior to the meeting that they could not attend tonight.
2. Introductions - Audience participation - Public input – Discussion about traffic calming with an area resident in the Adams Street area. Steve will follow up.
3. General business
 - a. Agenda approval – A motion was made by Helen, seconded by Sarah, to approve the agenda, passing unanimously.
 - b. Approval of November meeting minutes – A motion was made by Sarah, seconded by Helen, to approve the November minutes, passing unanimously.
 - c. Bylaws review – Bylaws were reviewed with no conflicts.
 - d. Additional Committee member recruitment – The Planning Commission approved the appointment of Jenny Connolly to the Committee at it's November 20th meeting.
4. Old & continuing business
 - a. 2019 Committee priorities
 1. City Non-Motorized Plan – Complete update – Jared Talaga indicated in a text to Bob that he would be meeting with Bonnie Wessler in the coming week to work towards the completion of the draft Plan update.
 2. Sidewalk curb cut inventory & improvements – Bob reviewed the list of suggested curb cut locations that came from local public input through social media. The next step will be making site visits to high-use areas of the City to note any deficiencies. Bob will send out a draft rating form for noting deficiencies by next week. Jenny and Lee indicated they would like to work on the curb cut inventory and top 10 list that will be forwarded to City Public Services.
 3. Pedestrian Improvements – Signage, road markings, permanent radar speed signs at select locations, traffic calming – Bob will confirm with Public Services that an in-road “motorists must stop for pedestrians” will be installed in the spring of 2020 on Cornell Street where the Border To Border Trail crosses the road. Bob reviewed the suggestions gathered through social media for the location of permanent radar speed sign locations. After discussion, the Committee members unanimously supported two permanent radar speed signs be installed (one northbound and one southbound) on Mansfield Street in the vicinity of the Washtenaw International High School & Middle Academy and another permanent sign be installed on southbound Prospect Road south of Holmes Road. The Committee will forward a request to the Planning Commission, with a copy to City Council, that three permanent radar speed control signs be purchased, and that City Council also consider the purchase of additional temporary battery-powered radar speed signs, preferably with a sign adjacent indicating the speed limit for a site.

4. Bike Lanes – Bob attended the November Planning Commission meeting where the Commission accepted the Complete Streets ordinance review of the plans to rebuild W. Cross Street from Elbridge Street to the western City limit. Bike lanes will be a part of this rebuild and will also include a pedestrian refuge area near Marion Street that will also have a Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon. Representing the Committee, Bob spoke in favor of the Cross Street rebuild during public comment.
5. Communication – Meeting invitations (City Council, Mayor, etc.), quarterly Non-Motorized Committee newsletter – Bob will invite the Public Services Director, and Police Chief, to a future meeting. Bob also indicated the next quarterly Committee newsletter should be published by the end of 2019.
6. Non-Motorized City budget – Amount of funds for non-motorized projects, Committee involvement in disbursement decisions – See item 4.a.3 for radar speed control sign request.
7. Neighborhood Connectors (formerly “Bike Boulevards”) potential projects – Project discussed with more action expected at the next meeting.
8. Border To Border Trail gap completion & improvements – Construction expected to begin on Grove Road and Frog Island segments in 2020. Steve indicated that DTE was checking into possible low-cost night lighting for these segments.
9. Walk Friendly Community application will be sent in once the Non-Motorized Plan Update is completed and approved by City Council. The Bike Friendly Community reapplication will be due by late 2021.
10. Sidewalk/Curb Cut vegetation (summer) snow removal (winter) promotion – Bob will send out appropriate reminders about sidewalk snow removal ordinance requirements.
11. Events – Cold weather cycling talks by Bob on 12/7 (2pm downtown Library) and 12/8 3pm Corner Brewery)
12. Dockless bicycle/scooter policy by City – Ordinance approved early 2019.
- b. Parkridge bike repair station – The City is exploring a grant to purchase a bike repair stand for the Parkridge Community Center. Bob relayed suggestions to the City Planning Department on which stand to purchase.
- c. Pedestrian Crossing Legislation – Michigan HB 4738 (Representative Ronnie Peterson) – Bob will pass on to Dylan information from the Washtenaw Bicycling & Walking Coalition on this legislation.
- d. Other

5. New Business

- a. Planning Department update – Bonnie Wessler indicated that there will be a Huron/Hamilton/Washtenaw public input session a project that includes repaving, curb cuts and bike lanes, on 12/17, 4pm to 7pm at the Freighthouse in Depot Town.
- b. 2020 Committee priorities – 2020 priorities were reviewed with a motion by Helen, seconded by Lee, to approve the priorities, passing unanimously. This document will be forwarded to the Planning Commission with a copy to City Council.
- c. Other – Annual Report – Bob is working on the Committee’s 2019 Annual Report and will forward a draft copy to Committee members by the end of next week.

6. Other Items – Announcements – A reminder was made that City Council will have roads workshop on 12/10/19 starting at 7pm and a Goal Setting session on 12/17/19 starting at 6pm. Lee is checking into a bicycle “check out” through the Ypsilanti District Library.
7. Adjournment - A motion was made by Helen, seconded by Lee, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm. The next Committee meeting will be Thursday, January 9th, 7pm, at the downtown Ypsilanti District Library main floor meeting room.