
APPROVED Meeting Minutes – September 21, 2015

The City of Raleigh Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee met on Monday, September 21, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Raleigh Municipal Building, 222 W. Hargett Street, Raleigh, NC with the following members present:

Commission Members:

Amy Simes, Chair
Paul Nevill, Vice Chair
Evan Brigham
Mike Dayton
Dan Howe
Harry Johnson
Seth Palmer
Aaron Peeler
Alan Wiggs

Staff:

Eric Lamb, Transportation Planning Manager
Teresa Young, Administrative Support

Absent:

Dr. Linda Butler (excused)
Aaron Peeler (unexcused)

I. Introduction

Ms. Simes called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and asked everyone to introduce themselves. '

II. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Palmer moved for approval of the August 17th minutes which was seconded by Mr. Brigham and approved by unanimous voice vote.

III. Public Comments

Ms. Kelly Chambers stated that she is a walking and cycling commuter that would like to see that the improvements for cyclists and pedestrians around Atlantic Avenue near the beltline area that is on the city plan be moved up in priority.

Mr. Tron O'Bell reported that two local businesses have run out of bicycle friendly business stickers. Mr. O'Bell added that there are cars parking in the bike lanes on Milburnie Road from St. Augustine's to Chatham Lane on both sides of the road. Mr. Howe inquired about the enforcement for parking on bike lanes on Milburnie Road. Mr. Lamb responded that Ridge Road is the only road that restricts parking in bike lanes during peak hours but there is no further activity on restricting parking in bike lanes. The commission discussed the conflicts of parking on streets with bike lanes and decided to take an inventory of which areas this is occurring, which was referred to the bicycle planning committee.

Mr. Wiggs stated that there is an increasing number of pedestrians walking down New Bern Avenue and crossing the I-440 beltline, and that pedestrian access in the WakeMed area should be looked into. Mr. Wiggs added it would also be worthwhile to add bike lanes along the Six Forks Rd from McNeil to Anderson as the road width would allow it.

Mr. Dayton stated he talked to over 50 people at SparkCon and recommended that the commission do an event at SparkCon again. Mr. Dayton suggested the commission brainstorm ideas for how to handle SparkCon and bigger events. Mr. Nevill agreed to take the item to community outreach committee.

IV. Special Presentation

Ms. Lisa Riegel, the Executive Director of BikeWalkNC gave a presentation regarding her organization as well as information regarding the statewide streets policy BikeWalkNC is currently drafting. Ms. Riegel added she would love to have BikeWalkNC strengthen its relationship with the commission.

IV. Staff Reports

City Project Updates: Mr. Lamb reported that Hillsborough Street Phase 2 was discussed at the recent City Council meeting. Mr. Lamb stated that the City Council approved the design but that there are continued concerns from some community members about roundabouts, and that the Council has asked staff to go in and paint the footprint of each roundabout. Mr. Lamb stated that the Brookside Drive neighborhood traffic management project had been completed, and the resurfacing project on Lassiter Mill Road will have the road diet restriping and new bike lanes completed soon. Mr. Lamb also reported that the bike lanes along Spring Forest Road will be completed within a week.

Mr. Wiggs reported that he received feedback from cyclists that the scale of the bumpouts that were placed on Brookside were strange in size. Mr. Nevill inquired about the traffic calming project on Kaplan Drive and Mr. Lamb responded it is under construction. Mr. Nevill inquired further about Milburnie Road and Mr. Lamb responded that a traffic calming project is in design. Mr. Nevill questioned about the status of the bikeshare feasibility study and Mr. Lamb reported it was still on hold due to funding issues. Mr. Nevill also asked about the project on Crabtree Creek towards Umstead. Mr. Lamb responded that staff is looking into getting options for federal funding for the project.

Mr. Brigham inquired about when projects are required to be presented to the commission. Mr. Lamb answered that all major City transportation projects are usually brought to the commission before being reviewed with the City Council.

City Staffing Update: Mr. Lamb thanked the staff for their help at SparkCon and announced that the new Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager, Ms. Susan Wilson, will be starting on Monday, September 28th.

City Council Updates: Mr. Lamb stated that the city attorney's office is doing a complete recodification project and looking at the entire City Code. Mr. Lamb announced that the City Council moved forward on two appointments for the commission who will now be seated at the next meeting. Mr. Lamb announced it is Mr. Wiggs and Mr. Dayton's last meeting as commissioners.

VI. Committee & Member Reports

Chair Report: Ms. Simes echoed Mr. Lamb's comments on Mr. Dayton and Ms. Wigg's work for the commission and presented Mr. Dayton with a plaque for his service as chair.

Community Outreach Committee: Mr. Nevill reported that there was no meeting but that he and Mr. Brigham made a presentation about the BPAC to the Wade Citizen's Advisory Council on August 25th.

Bicycle Planning Committee: Mr. Johnson reported that there was a mobile meeting on August 22nd where the committee circled the art to heart trail and discussed signage and wayfinding along the trail. Mr. Johnson stated that it would be a good idea to have more of these meetings in the future. Mr. Johnson also added that the committee discussed the bike plan update.

Pedestrian Planning Committee: Ms. Simes reported that the committee met earlier in the month to discuss midblock crossings.

Joint Bicycle & Pedestrian Planning Committee: No report. Mr. Lamb stated that the comprehensive plan update is lagging as the city is waiting on the Wake Transit Plan update.

VII. Old Business

No report.

VIII. New Business

Walktober Planning: Mr. Lamb stated that the commission currently has no specific program for Walktober which is the October counter to bike month. Mr. Nevill stated that October 7th is National Walk to School day. Mr. Brigham stated he could organize a walk for late October that would go from the bell tower at NC State University to downtown and tour the historical landmarks along the way.

IX. Announcements

Mr. Johnson announced that municipal elections start on October 6th and September 24th is when early voting begins.

Mr. Wiggs stated that in Richmond, Virginia from September 24th onward is the women's and under 23 cycling championships and that there are events and races going on every day.

Mr. Johnson stated that the next bicycle planning committee meeting will be October 12th at 6 pm.

Mr. Brigham stated that there should be another BPAC informational presentation at the next Five Points Citizens Advisory Council.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Young