

CITY OF COLUMBIA BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) October 12, 2020 4:30 PM

Virtual meeting using conferencing technology Columbia, SC

William Baker • Pamela Bynoe-Reed • John Corbett • Susan J. Forrest • Christina Galardi Fritz Hamer • Chase Keibler • George Kokolis • Betsy Newman • Charles Zachary Pippin • Rip Sanders Rachel Thomason John • Barton Walrath • Cynthia Watson • Chrys Zouras

I Call to order

Meeting commenced at 4:32 PM. Members in attendance included: Barton Walrath, William Baker, Susan J Forrest, Chrys Zouras, Christina Galardi, Fritz Hamer, George Kokolis, Charles Zachary Pippin and Lucinda Statler (Staff)

II Regular Agenda

- A. Approval of August 10, 2020 minutes Fritz Hamer made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. George Kokolis seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed by unanimous vote.
- B. Updates
 - a. Bart Walrath, co-chair, provided an update on the Main Street push-button crosswalks; Andrew Ritter of City of Columbia traffic engineering, said the pushbuttons could not be removed but he will evaluate use of signage to indicate that push-buttons are not operable
 - b. City Planning Update, Lucinda Statler, city staff, reviewed the current bike/ped and transportation projects that are ongoing
 - c. BPAC's annual report to Council may be a report, as Council is not hearing presentations during Covid; it is possible that a presentation next spring may be a possibility.
- C. Committee Reports

Projects and Initiatives updates

- Millwood bike lanes:
 - Fritz asked about whether the number of lanes was supposed to be reduced, as that was not what was implemented; Bart thought not- only the reduction in width of the lanes
 - Christina mentioned a set date for November (7th or 8th) would be a good time for an 'Millwood' event. Additionally, she said EatSmartMove More Richland County is willing to assist;

- Susan questioned whether or not we needed confirmation from the City to post the event (and other matters) on social media. Lucinda confirmed that PR requests should only be executed if it is a set event;
- Fritz commented Millwood needs debris cleaning for pedestrians and cyclists. George presented an idea we (BPAC) adopt a section of Millwood in order to accomplish this.
- Walk Bike Ambassador Program:
 - Christina asked that everyone review the materials and that committee members were needed to implement the program;
 - Christina mentioned we may wish to reach out to Allison Terracio regarding whether or not she would be willing to assist with the training curriculum for this;

Policy Committee updates

• Committee put together communication regarding walking/public access to trail across the dam as part of Canal rebuild project; Fritz drafted a letter to the City regarding this and Bart is to send the draft to the City (Policy Committee to submit revisions to Fritz and Bart)

Marketing Committee updates

- Christina questioned whether or not there was any further discussion establishing a Committee email address (possibly a Gmail account); no one had an update at this time;
- Susan recommended we set guidelines and procedures and, perhaps, bring on a temporary intern/support member to execute social media posts. Bart noted that, if we were to do so, we need a set description of duties and Lucinda agreed she would reach out to the City regarding Public Relations;
- Will commented it may be a good idea to post an advertisement at USC in order to bring a student onboard to do this;
- Christina mentioned it may be a good idea to simply leave our social media outreach to Facebook for now;
- Susan questioned if the City was conducting organized events during COVID-19 Lucinda confirmed 'No.'

III Other business

IV Public Comment

- Lyman Munson, of Hyatt Park neighborhood, came to the meeting and questioned why there were not bike lanes on North Main, as part of the streetscaping project.
- Lucinda clarified that the project- over a decade long in planning, funding, and construction, was almost complete and that the bike lanes were not part of the original plans for reconstruction. As well, bike facilities that will eventually connect north Columbia to downtown, such as the continuation of the Vista Greenway, will ultimately be safer as they are separated facilities.
- Lucinda also mentioned a group of city officials from throughout the state have been having conversations with meeting with DOT to update standards that recognize the difference between rural road design and urban road design.

IV Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:31 PM.