



CITY OF COLUMBIA
BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)
October 11, 2021
4:30 PM

Virtual meeting using conferencing technology
Columbia, SC

PAMELA BYNOE-REED • ZACH CAVANAUGH • DEREK DAVIS • CHRISTINA GALARDI
ANNA GILBERT • DOUGLAS GIOVANETTI • GEORGE KOKOLIS • CARMEN LATIMER • JENNIFER LEAPHART
BETSY NEWMAN • CYNTHIA WATSON • MARY SCOTT-CHANCEY WILLIAMS

In attendance: Pamela Bynoe-Reed, Derek Davis, Christina Galardi, Anna Gilbert, Carmen Latimer, Jennifer Leaphart, Betsy Newman, Cynthia Watson

Absent: Zach Cavanaugh, Douglas Giovanetti, George Kokolis, Mary Scott-Chancey Williams

Staff: Leigh DeForth, Dana Higgins, Lucinda Statler

Councilwoman Devine, Walk Bike Ambassadors Ann Butler, Linda Gaffney, Michael Egbert, Blake Gibbons, Joel Njoku, Mariana Paredes, and Eshana Young-Pierre; Sam Johnson, Sheree Muse, Yarley Steedly (American Heart Association) also attended the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER - Chair Watson

Chairwoman Watson began the meeting at 4:36pm.

II. REGULAR AGENDA

a. Introduction & Celebration of Fall 2021 Walk Bike Ambassadors

Ms. Watson welcomed the Walk Bike Ambassador graduates to the meeting and congratulated them on their participation, and BPAC members on their completion of the program. She reviewed noted that each of the Ambassadors would be receiving certificates of completion signed by Councilwoman Devine.

Mr. Davis joined the meeting at 4:37pm.

Ms. Latimer joined the meeting at 4:42pm.

b. Meeting Minutes

- Approval of September 20, 2021 DRAFT minutes (action required)

Ms. Watson made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, and Ms. Bynoe-Reed seconded the motion.

- c. Follow up on Mayor Benjamin's list
 - Mayor's bike ride 2021 updates – Chair Watson

Ms. Watson noted they were looking at some virtual options, but that the Mayor had not yet committed to a date, and that she had communicated with Ms. Archie regarding scheduling. Ms. Statler confirmed that she had followed up via the proper channels but had not received a response as of yet.

- d. Open Streets discussion/ follow up

Ms. Galardi noted that she, Ms. Latimer, and Ms. Williams had been meeting with Eau Claire and Earlewood community organizations regarding a Spring 2022 Open Streets event, with a tentative date of Sunday, March 13th. They have proposed a route in connecting several neighborhoods in the North Main area, and neighborhood association leaders in the area would be circulating information within their neighborhoods over the next couple of months. Ms. Galardi indicated that they hoped to be able to submit for permitting prior to the end of the year to allow adequate time for that process. She noted that the neighborhoods would like to emphasize low-stress routes and the ease of connections between the neighborhoods and down to the Vista. Ms. Latimer noted that a lot of the progress to date involved a number of communications, and Ms. Watson urged the Walk Bike Ambassador class to engage with Open Streets and other such encouragement events and activities.

- e. Committee reports
 - Ambassador program – Christina Galardi

Ms. Galardi gave an overview of the Walk Bike Ambassador program curriculum and homework, and thanked Ms. Latimer and Ms. Leaphart for their efforts with the program. She noted that the subcommittee members would be meeting to debrief after the BPAC meeting, and hoped to hold a second iteration of the Walk Bike Ambassadors program in 2022.

Councilwoman Devine thanked the Ambassador class for their participation, and congratulated them on their efforts. She thanked BPAC for their efforts on the Walk Bike Ambassador program and other outreach efforts. Councilwoman Devine gave a quick rundown of Calhoun Street, noted the potential for a \$4 million pending federal earmark for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure from Congressman Clyburn, and that she had spoken with Senator Graham's and Secretary Buttigieg's offices. She touched on the concept for a kids bike park, and on property the City had acquired along North Main.

Ms. Watson thanked Ms. Devine for her time and attendance.

Councilwoman Devine left the meeting at 4:59pm.

- Bike/ped tours/partnerships – Betsy Newman

Ms. Newman indicated that Mr. Giovanetti had drafted language for the post for their latest walk, and that it covered Randolph and Elmwood cemeteries and the ease of connection to the cemeteries and via the Vista Greenway. Ms. Gilbert noted that there was a photo of the cemetery as well. There was some additional conversation regarding the process for posting to Facebook.

- Marketing – Chair Watson

Ms. Watson and Ms. Bynoe Reed noted that there was nothing additional to report on marketing at the time. There was some discussion of the creation of posts in Spanish as well as English.

f. City Planning Update – staff

Ms. Statler noted thanked those who participated in bike/ped counts, and indicated she was happy to answer any questions regarding the update. Ms. Galardi asked if there was a need for a call to action from citizens regarding Councilwoman Devine’s update. Ms. Watson indicated that she could follow up with Councilwoman Devine, but that she understood that at this time the funding was added to the bill and the bill was awaiting final passage.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no other business, Ms. Watson opened the floor to public comment.

Sam Johnson spoke briefly, and thanked BPAC for the opportunity to sit in on the meeting. He indicated he would like to speak with BPAC on November 8th. Ms. Watson indicated that she would send an email to Mr. Johnson and follow up with the zoom link once available, as well.

V. ADJOURN

There being no public comment, Ms. Watson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Ms. Newman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.