



CITY OF COLUMBIA
BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)
January 10, 2022
4:30 PM

Richland Library Main
Auditorium
Columbia, SC 29201

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: Zach Cavanaugh, Derek Davis, Douglas Giovanetti, Anna Gilbert, George Kokolis, Carmen Latimer, Jennifer Leaphart, Betsy Newman

Absent: Pamela Bynoe-Reed, Christina Galardi, Cynthia Watson, Mary Scott-Chancey Williams

Staff: Leigh DeForth, Dana Higgins, Lucinda Statler

Eshana Young-Pierre (Blue Bike SC) also attended the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER - Chair Cavanaugh

Chairman Cavanaugh called the meeting to order at 4:33pm.

II. REGULAR AGENDA

a. Meeting Minutes

- Approval of [December 13 minutes](#) (action required)

Douglas Giovanetti entered the meeting at 4:35pm.

Ms. Gilbert made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, and Mr. Cavanaugh seconded the motion to approve.

b. First 2022 Group bike ride- January 15th

Mr. Cavanaugh noted that Ms. Young-Pierre had sent an email which he would forward to the group after the meeting, and that the plan for the ride was to meet at Riverfront Park at 1pm. Ms. DeForth noted that it had been posted as a BPAC co-sponsored event on Facebook, and Mr. Giovanetti offered to share it to the BPAC page. There was some discussion of sharing the event to personal social media accounts. The following BPAC members indicated that they planned to attend the ride: Mr. Cavanaugh, Mr. Davis, Mr. Giovanetti, and Ms. Latimer.

Ms. Young Pierre noted she and Mr. Giovanetti still planned to discuss additional dates for future BPAC and Blue Bike SC partnership rides.

c. Committee reports

- Open Streets

Mr. Cavanaugh reviewed Ms. Williams' update, noting the change in dates to April 24th. He also noted the change to routing, to include Recreation Drive and Florence Street, and that the subcommittee was working to identify sponsorships in the coming weeks. Ms. Latimer clarified that Ms. Williams was looking for a contact for R.E.I., and Mr. Cavanaugh noted he would be happy to reach out. Elmwood, Earlewood, and Cottontown planned to provide letters of support, and the goal was to submit the parade permit application to the City by the end of January.

Ms. Young-Pierre noted that she had been discussing the placement of temporary stations with neighborhoods, and that they might be able to set those up to coincide with the Open Streets event.

- Ambassador program

Ms. Leaphart noted that she, Ms. Latimer, and Ms. Galardi had been in contact regarding the Spring program, given the shift in the Open Streets event date. In conjunction with moving Open Streets, the subcommittee was in the process of shifting the Ambassador program, with a modified start date of April 4th. The Walk Bike Ambassador Program will shift to a five-week program, with each evening being a class or activity. With the revised timeline, the subcommittee planned to begin marketing applications in mid-February, and to close the application period out a few weeks prior to the first session date. Ms. Leaphart noted that the shift might also hopefully coincide with a decrease in COVID rates and increasing levels of comfort with meeting in person.

- Bike/ped tours/partnerships

Ms. Newman noted that the subcommittee was preparing additional write ups, and had been unable to meet since the last regular BPAC meeting. There was some discussion of additional walk locations. Ms. Newman indicated it would be helpful to reach out to ColaToday to have them advertise the routes. Ms. Newman noted that One Columbia had already developed a map of public art, which BPAC could feature with a walk route. The focus this month would be the Riverwalk, and Mr. Giovanetti noted that there were several sections of the Riverwalk that BPAC could highlight.

- Marketing

No one was present from the Marketing Subcommittee.

d. City Planning Update – staff

Ms. Statler highlighted a few items on the update. She noted that Engineering was working to bid out the Calhoun Street project. She also noted that the South Main Street project, which included extensive utility undergrounding, a street rebuild, and bike and pedestrian facilities, had received gap financing, and that the project should be let in the near future by SCDOT.

Ms. Higgins noted that the City had received two \$500,000 earmarks for Vista Greenway development (obtained by SC Representative Rutherford), and that it would likely cover rough grading of the proposed greenway. She indicated that alignment had not yet been fully established, but that she hoped it would be finalized in the near future. Ms. Higgins indicated that where the City did not have access to property for trail routing, sidewalks would likely be utilized as connectors until additional connections could be made.

Ms. Statler encouraged BPAC members to be engaged with one or more subcommittee if they were not already participating in one. She noted that she would also be happy to provide hard copies of BPAC member binders at the following meeting if members wished to receive them, and Ms. Latimer, Mr. Giovanetti, and Ms. Young-Pierre indicated they were interested.

Ms. Higgins noted that the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Assembly Street rail project had been delayed until Summer 2022. She indicated that the railroads might be able to obtain some additional funding for the interlocking signalization.

Ms. Gilbert asked about the Gills Creek Greenway. Ms. Statler noted that the Administrative Adjustment Committee had met shortly prior to the holiday, and reviewed a request from the County to further reduce width, providing a brief history of the County's request for administrative adjustments on the Gills Creek Greenway.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no other business to discuss, Ms. Young-Pierre noted that she would like to cohost a second session of Let's Cycle Columbia in the Fall, and would be glad to work with anyone from BPAC to plan and implement that program.

V. ADJOURN

Mr. Cavanaugh made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Ms. Leaphart. The meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.