



CITY OF COLUMBIA
BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)
March 14, 2022
4:30 PM

Richland Library Main
Columbia, SC 29201

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

In attendance: Zach Cavanaugh, Derek Davis, Anna Gilbert, Christina Galardi, Jennifer Leaphart, Mary Scott-Chancey Williams

Absent: Pamela Bynoe-Reed, Douglas Giovanetti, Carmen Latimer, Cynthia Watson

Staff: Leigh DeForth, Shane Shaughnessy, Lucinda Statler

Eshana Young-Pierre, Blue Bike SC, and Beth and Aaron Lawson, NOMA Warehouse, were also in attendance.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Cavanaugh began the meeting at 4:35p.m. by suggesting Ms. Lawson speak about her event while they were waiting for BPAC members to arrive to establish quorum.

Ms. Lawson introduced herself and her husband, Mr. Lawson as owners of the NOMA Warehouse. She stated she was at the meeting to inform the Committee of an upcoming bicycling-focused event. Building on the success of Sol Fest last year, Ms. Lawson stated this year's festival would be called Sol Fest Roll Fest and would take place in Earlewood Park on July 2nd. This festival will feature a music stage that will be powered by pedaling Blue Bikes as well as a group ride. Ms. Lawson stated that she was working with Sustainable Midlands and Palmetto Cycling to be beneficiaries of funds raised by this festival.

Ms. and Mr. Lawson also expressed their desires for BPAC members to get involved in the festival by talking about bicycle safety, sustainability, or general cycling FAQs.

II. CALL TO ORDER - Chair Cavanaugh

Mr. Cavanaugh called the meeting to order at 4:43p.m. following the entrance of enough BPAC members to establish quorum.

III. REGULAR AGENDA

- a. Meeting Minutes
 - Approval of March minutes

Mr. Cavanaugh moved to approve the minutes as submitted, and Ms. Williams seconded the motion. The motion to approve was passed by unanimous vote.

- b. Committee reports
 - Open Streets

Ms. Williams provided an update to the Open Streets event stating that the event was going to happen and that 18 street vendors and sponsors were scheduled to be a part of the event. Events at Open Streets were planned to include a drop-in art session from NOMA Warehouse, dance classes, and yoga instructions, dog-based activities from REI, and foster dog adoptions from Final Victory Animal Rescue. Events were planned to take place on River Drive with the rest of the Open Streets route to be open for pedestrians and cyclists. Ms. Williams also stated that over \$1,000 had been raised to pay for this event. She stated she was looking for volunteers to help the day of the event and was working to recruit food trucks to service patrons in Earlewood Park.

Mr. Cavanaugh stated he would assist in helping to recruit food trucks and asked if the parade permit with CPD had been approved. Ms. Williams stated CPD had approved their permit and was assisting to provide barricades for the event.

Ms. Galardi suggested that Walk Bike Ambassadors could help volunteer, and suggested members from the American Heart Association who had previously volunteered at Bike to Work events. Mr. Cavanaugh also suggested recruiting volunteers from Prisma or other area businesses like Blue Cross. Ms. Gilbert stated she would assist in recruiting volunteers via the BPAC Facebook page.

- Ambassador program

Ms. Galardi provided an update of the Walk Bike Ambassador program. She stated that seven people had attended the latest session and were working on developing a goal for walking and biking in the community. This session was followed by a group bike ride around downtown Columbia led by Ms. Galardi.

Ms. Galardi stated the next session would take place on April 18th and would be about placemaking with a representative of AARP, and the final session would take place on May 2nd and would feature a representative of the Palmetto Cycling Coalition. She stated the ambassadors would be attending the May BPAC meeting for a “graduation” ceremony for their efforts.

- Bike/ped tours/partnerships

Ms. Gilbert provided an update about bike/ped tours. She stated that Explore Freely had conducted a bike ride at Riverfront Park last month and that future rides were planned for the Vista Greenway and public art with One Columbia.

- Marketing

Ms. Williams stated there was no subcommittee update as most of her time was preoccupied with Open Streets. She stated it would be helpful from a marketing perspective for BPAC to get an Instagram account. Mr. Cavanaugh inquired what the current City social media policy was. Ms. DeForth replied that

the current retooling of social media has limited the Planning Division to just calendar events and announcements of awards but there was no final decision about how BPAC's social media presence should be handled from the City's Public Relations Department. Ms. Statler stated that due to that the City's transitioning social media and engagement strategy, it would not be advisable for BPAC to acquire an Instagram account at this time. She indicated she was hopeful that some of these transitional issues would be temporary.

c. May is Bike Month

- Sustainable Midlands/ Cola Town Bike Collective tour

Ms. DeForth stated there were no updates to this item.

- Bike to Work Day activities

Ms. DeForth asked for the members of BPAC to attend Bike to Work activities, particularly the final ride from the State House to City Hall. Mr. Cavanaugh stated he would be in attendance and would attempt to lead a ride. He also stated he reached out to the Mayor but had not had a response yet. Ms. DeForth stated that during Bike to Work Day, organized rides would converge at the State House and ride to City Hall. She stated that there were currently rides planned from Cycle Center and Outspokin and encouraged members to organize rides of their own.

- Bike Month Proclamation

Ms. DeForth encouraged BPAC members to attend the Bike Month proclamation at the May 3rd City Council meeting. Mr. Cavanaugh asked if he needed to prepare a presentation to which Ms. DeForth replied that it wasn't necessary and would likely entail a reading from Council and a photograph.

d. City Planning Update – staff

Ms. DeForth stated that Ms. Newman had stepped down as a member of BPAC and encouraged members to reach out to find new members for the Committee.

Ms. DeForth provided an update that the Calhoun bike lane project was moving forward and that the City was working to identify additional funds and looking at the bid costs. Ms. DeForth also stated that the S. Main project would be rebid for the third time as additional funds had been identified. She then spoke about the recent Bicyclists and Pedestrian Counts and noted that a report would follow the Fall Counts. She discussed the opportunity to comment on SCDOT's recently released Vulnerable Road Users Safety Project List. Finally, Ms. DeForth provided an update that SCDOT had recently indicated that they would move forward with the inclusion of bike lanes and transit alighting areas as part of the Monticello Road resurfacing project, and asked BPAC members to hold the tentative informational meeting date of May 24th.

Ms. Gilbert inquired about the S. Main project asking if temporary restriping or another non-permanent adjustment could be placed ahead of the final construction of the project. Ms. Statler stated she would look into it, but that coordination time and costs may make such a project redundant with the final project.

Ms. Statler also stated that due to increased workload and staffing issues, that she would be taking a step back from BPAC and would instead provide a supporting role while Ms. DeForth and Mr. Shaughnessy would be taking the lead for future meetings.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Young-Pierre passed out flyers about the upcoming Meat Less Bike More events that would start on April 18th. She also stated that participants would be entered into a raffle for gift cards or Blue Bike memberships and passed out Blue Bike branded bike lights to meeting attendees. Finally, she stated that Blue Bike would be setting up a temporary bike share station at NOMA gardens to service the Open Streets event.

VI. ADJOURN

There being no further business or comment, Mr. Cavanaugh made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Ms. Williams. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote, and the meeting adjourned at 5:25p.m.