



# Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

## MINUTES

January 17, 2006 ■ 7:00 PM  
Committee Room  
Second Floor, City Hall

**Members Present:** Heather Fisher, Robert Glenn, Sam Hummel, Judy Martell, Chris Mankoff, Mike Wolosin, Alan Dippy, Pete Schubert, Caleb Southern

**Members Absent:** Excused absences: Phillip Barron, Diane Daniel, Phil McHugh, Tim Griffin,

**Staff Present:** Alison Carpenter

**Guests Present:** Kevin Primus and associates

**Public Present:** N/A

### I. Call to Order

Chair Heather Fisher called the meeting to order.

Acting Secretary was Alison Carpenter.

### II. Approval of Minutes

The December 20, 2005 meeting minutes were approved “as is.”

### III. Adjustments to the Agenda: Introductions & Announcements

Pete made an announcement about an upcoming public workshop for the Durham County Bicycle Plan on January 31, 4-8pm, in City Hall.

### IV. Public Comment

Kevin Primus and associates from Primus First Realty attended the meeting and presented project ideas for a “Safer Routes” to Duke campus program. As members of the realty community, they would like to put together a resource guide to help students and staff understand the bike and pedestrian environment in near campus neighborhood – the tentative publication date is March 2006. Kevin invited interested BPAC members to contribute to the booklet by writing one-page essays on local biking conditions.

### V. Presentation/Guests

- Receive comments from Friends of the Eno – board member, Janet Barbato, attended the meeting to discuss the organization’s request for funding priority of the Eno River greenway and associated bridgework, as well as the Lower Warren Creek greenway (which would connect the existing north-south greenway north of Horton Rd to the Eno Park).

The commission discussed support of these projects. Alison mentioned that DPR is preparing a contract for work on Eno greenway and bridge to begin this spring; the Lower Warren Creek greenway is stalled due to objections from adjacent property owners to the trail alignment. Heather suggested that BPAC ask the Dept of Parks & Recreation (DPR) for a progress report on the Eno River Greenway at the March BPAC meeting.

Caleb Southern made a motion to send a letter from BPAC to DPR in support of the trail work. Judy Martell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **VI. Old Business**

Development Review Update – Judy confirmed that she will be attending the DOST development review subcommittee, as well as DRB, while her time permits. She updated the commission on a recent DRB training, and efforts to learn bike/ped related elements of the UDO.

- BPAC Website Update – Chris Mankoff asked that members who would like to submit new or updated bios, send them to him and he will post them online.
- Treasurer's Report – The Commission has \$1,000 from Durham County to spend by June 2006. Alison asked for ideas on annual expenditures for fiscal year 2006, so that Chris Mankoff (BPAC treasurer) could plan how to spend funds before the fiscal calendar rolls over in June. The commission discussed the possibility of using some funds for Bike to Work Week (such as for film festival, as mentioned last year). Alison asked if the commission would be interested in contributing funds to have an Art Bike Parade in the spring (possibly paying Scrap Exchange to host a decorating booth) – commission members indicated that this would be a good event to sponsor. BPAC members to email ideas for budget expenditures to Chris, so he can pull together a plan.
- University Updates – Mike Wolosin expressed excitement from the Duke community about recent federal grant for bike/ped improvements on Morreene Rd. Judy Martell suggested that Duke consider building a connector trail from Morreene Rd to NC 751, thru Duke Forest. Other suggestions included building a trail along the 15-501 corridor (possibly along a utility easement). Mike will mention the idea to Duke staff to gauge project support.

Judy asked about progress of the Main St/Campus Dr bridge. Sam Hummel asked about the possibility of a road diet on Main St. Alison will look into the project and return with update in February or March. Alison will also present an update on Hillandale Rd progress.

- Pedestrian/Bike Plan Update – Alison announced that the Pedestrian Plan is coming to a close – the draft report is being released in February for public review, and a presentation to City Council will likely occur in April 2006. Mike requested BPAC review of the Draft Ped Plan – Alison will get copies of the draft to commission members as it becomes available.

Alison announced that the Bicycle Plan is underway and the consultants are currently working on an existing conditions review. The first public workshop

will be held on January 31, 4-8pm, in the Council Chambers on the first floor of Durham City Hall. Pete Schubert asked that the consultants consider recent field work and planning elements of the CORE plan, including Pete's data on roadways around RTP area. Alison will send this information to the consultants at Greenways, Inc.

- Old Durham-Chapel Hill Rd Study Update – Alison presented a brief update that the Old Durham-Chapel Hill Rd study is complete, and currently a subcommittee of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is looking at the funding scenario for the project, in order to find an additional \$1 million to build bike/ped improvements along the entire corridor. This project will be incorporated into the statewide 2007-2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for construction in 2009. The report will be presented for adoption by the MPO's Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) in February 2006, while the funding scenario will be presented with the release of the draft TIP in April.

Pete asked that the MPO contact Tom Norman regarding project cost estimates and other elements of the project work.

- Community Bike Parade – Alison mentioned event planning for a Spring event in downtown Durham, to commemorate new CCB Plaza park downtown. The park is scheduled for completion around April 2006; several local organizations are interested in hosting an opening ceremony and “running of the bulls” parade from the American Tobacco Campus to new park (at Corcoran/Chapel Hill St) and then proceeding to the Farmer's Market at Central Park for a picnic celebration. There are plans to have a bicycle element to the event – Alison asked if the commission would be interested in helping with the event and/or possibly contributing funds to have an Art Bike Parade (which might include paying Scrap Exchange to host a decorating booth). Commission members indicated that this would be a good event to sponsor. Alison will send out next meeting announcement for event planning, so that BPAC members might attend if interested.
- Education Materials – Alison gave an update on progress with bike education materials, and passed out rough draft of Bike Law Card. Commission members made some suggested changes, for consideration in final draft. Alison mentioned that the “Basic Bike Commuter” brochure and “Share the Road” bumper sticker are the last items, and will be ready for review in the next month or so.
- Annual Report to City Council – Alison presented a revised draft of the report; Bo Glenn and Heather Fisher volunteered to help with the presentation to City Council. Alison will collaborate with Bo and Heather on the best possible meeting time. Pete Schubert suggested handing out cards with BPAC website and information, as well as to visit website during PowerPoint presentation. Mike Wolosin made a motion to approve the report; Judy Martell seconded – motion passed unanimously.
- TTA Regional Rail – Heather Fisher requested that the commission take a new vote on this item, as the issue was potentially left unresolved at the December 2005 meeting. Judy made a motion that the commission draft a letter of support to TTA for the regional rail project. Mike Wolosin suggested that the letter be addressed to USDOT Secretary Mineta, and copied to NC Senators and House

representatives, as well as Durham City Council and County Commissioners. Heather will present a copy of draft letter to TTA for BPAC consideration in February 2006.

## **VI. New Business**

- Election of Commission Vice Chairperson – Tim Griffin was unable to attend meeting, but emailed Alison that he would be interested in co-chair position. Pete nominated Tim for election, Mike seconded. Motion passed unanimously to elect Tim to the co-chair position.
- Bike/Ped-related Revisions to UDO – Alison passed out comments from Frank Duke regarding bike/ped revisions to UDO, as suggested by BPAC and citizens (e.g. Dave Sokal). This item was informational.

## **VII. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- Present annual report to City Council
- Draft and send letter re TTA Regional Rail project
- Draft and send letter to City's department of Parks & Recreation regarding Eno River and Lower Warren Creek greenways
- Develop 2006 Fiscal Plan