

MINUTES

December 13, 2011 Meeting

Members Present: Scott Carter, Jim Dunlop, Ninna Gagnon, Lou Goetz, Erik Landfried, Jonathan Leach, Mathew Palmer, Merry Rabb

Members Absent: Toby Berla, Dan Clever (excused), Greg Garneau (excused), Lars Trost (excused), Teiji Kimball, Dwayne Taylor

Staff Present: Dale McKeel

Liaison Present:

Guests Present: Sarah Taylor, Colin Barry, Mark Dessauer, Jack Warman

A. Introductions

B. Approval of Minutes

- ◆ Jonathan mentioned that Brian Williams was listed twice under guests present.
- ◆ *Lou moved and Merry seconded to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.*

C. Adjustments to the Agenda

- ◆ The presentations for new business items were moved to just after announcements.

D. Announcements

- ◆ Jim mentioned that The NCDOT Safe Routes to Schools program is moving from the Transportation Mobility and Safety Division to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Division.
- ◆ Scott made a presentation on BPAC's annual report to the County Commissioners. He invited the commissioners to appoint a liaison to BPAC, and also lobbied to increase the Bicycle-Pedestrian Coordinator to a full time position. (Dale's current responsibilities are split between the City and the MPO.)

E. Public Comment

- ◆ Jack made a presentation regarding the newly constructed bike lanes on TW Alexander Drive near Cornwallis Road. The bike lanes as striped appear to be confusing and dangerous. As the road narrows from two through motor vehicular lanes to one, the bike lane shifts to the left of the ending lane (which ends as a right-turn only to EMC.) His recommendation is to remove the bike lanes south of Cornwallis to reduce the conflict points. Dale and Jim will take a look at the plans for the project to see what can be done.

F. Committee Reports

1. Development Review Committee Report (Dan Clever)

First Thursday, 6:30 pm, Sunset Grill

- ◆ The Development Review Committee did not meet in December. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 5, 2012.

2. Bike Plan Implementation Committee Report (Greg Garneau)

Second Thursday 6:30 pm, Geer Street Garden

- ◆ In attendance were: Dan Clever, Erik Landfried, Ninna Gagnon, Merry Rabb, Mathew Palmer, and Greg Garneau (Convener)
- ◆ Safe Routes to School
The Pedestrian Plan Implementation Committee and the Bicycle Plan Implementation Committee met jointly at Erik Landfried's suggestion. This was done to save time because Mathew Palmer wanted to present an overview of the Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS) which is relevant to both Committees. Mathew explained SRTS, detailed the "5 E's", discussed existing projects, and outlined future opportunities for Durham to pursue SRTS grants that might fund sidewalk and bicycle routes to Durham schools. The joint Committees expressed a commitment to pursue this opportunity and will use the sidewalk and bicycle project maps (among other tools) to identify projects that are most eligible to receive this funding. As a follow up -- Greg will look at the formula used for prioritizing bicycle routes and the presence and weighting of Durham schools in that process. The sidewalk project weighting and prioritization model has been well explored and updated by BPAC. (As a practical matter, all that might be needed is to mark the location of Durham public schools along the prioritized bicycle routes.)
- ◆ Club Boulevard
Greg reported that his effort to have the neighborhood association reconsider its design for speed reduction along this planned bicycle route came to nothing. It involved residents of Club Boulevard (in the affected area who bicycle) and who have personal contacts with the neighborhood association. Carl Sundstrom had kindly provided an alternate design (similar to BPAC's proposal of a year ago) -- but it was rejected out of hand.
- ◆ Maps on the BPAC Web Site
Greg was asked about updates and informed the Pedestrian Plan Committee that their map will receive a preliminary update from Dale McKeel and his intern. The newly reprioritized segments with more practical endpoints (long segments were divided into two or more projects) will be mapped using GIS and then uploaded to create a new map. Progress against the current plan will be reflected too. Greg will work on the update as needed.
- ◆ Other Business
Greg is waiting to hear from Dale McKeel as to the how and where of updating the Top Projects of the Bicycle Plan Map.

3. Pedestrian Plan Implementation Committee Report (Erik Landfried)

First Tuesday of month, 6:30 pm, location TBD

- ◆ The Pedestrian Plan Committee met jointly with the Bike Plan Committee in December. (See minutes above.)

4. Communications Committee Report (Merry Rabb)

Second Wednesday, 7 pm, Beyu Caffè

- ◆ The Communications Committee will not meet in December.

G. Updates from Liaisons

1. NCCU – Jonathan Leach

- ◆ No new items this month.

2. Duke University

- ◆ Ninna attended the last Duke bicycle meeting and reported that Duke is planning on adding long-term bicycle storage, mainly for summers.

The bike infrastructure is close to completion; however some of the work was not to standard, and needs to be corrected.

A sign will be installed on Campus Drive at the Main Street Bridge. They are looking at adding bike parking; however there is a logistical issue with who is responsible for the bike racks, the Transportation Department or the specific building personnel.

They will have a bike sale during the summer.

They are planning on having a bicycle workshop that will be mandatory for any certified bicycle commuter.

Brian Williams is investigating hosting the 2012 NC Bicycle Summit at Fuqua.

3. DOST – Toby Berla

- ◆ No report.

H. Old Business

1. Elections (Scott Carter)

- ◆ Scott reported that the nominations committee nominated Scott for Chairman, and Merry for Vice-Chairman.
- ◆ Nominations for Chairman was opened. Hearing none, Jim moved and Lou seconded to close the nominations. Vote was unanimous to close nominations.
- ◆ The vote was unanimous to elect Scott as Chair.
- ◆ Nominations for Vice-Chairman was opened. Hearing none, Jim moved and Lou seconded to close the nominations. Vote was unanimous to close nominations.
- ◆ The vote was unanimous to elect Merry as Vice-Chair.

2. Durham Walks! Plan: Revised Sidewalk Corridor Rankings and Proposed Sidewalk Construction Priority List (Dale McKeel)

- ◆ Dale shared a follow-up on the revisions. The report was presented to the City Council, and was approved as presented with the exception of a section on Garrett Road between US 15-501 and Old Chapel Hill Road. The council removed that section, and moved it to the section of Garrett Road south of Old Chapel Hill.

3. NCDOT Access to Transit Project (Dale McKeel/Erik Landfried)

- ◆ A kickoff meeting was held this past month. The NCDOT Bike/Ped Division has started a pilot program to Improve access to bus stops along and across streets.
- ◆ The first three corridors targeted are Holloway Street, North Roxboro Street, and Fayetteville Road.

4. Durham Comprehensive Plan Update (Dan Clever)

- ◆ Dan forwarded the letter approved last month to the Planning and Transportation Department, and is awaiting a response.

I. New Business

1. Bull City Open Streets (Ninna Gagnon and Mark Dessaur)

- ◆ Ninna and Mark gave a presentation on the program, which is attempting to generate more physical activity by Durham children, and especially bicycling and walking.
- ◆ The Open Streets program proposes to close streets to encourage community activities.
- ◆ The first Open Streets in Durham occurred around Central Park in May 2010. Four Open Street events were held in 2011, starting with DPR's Earth Day event.
- ◆ The needs for the coming year include: more partners, political support, more funding and to be a part of a larger vision or movement for biking and walking in Durham.

2. CORE Pedestrian, Bicycle and Green Space Update (Dale McKeel/ Ninna Gagnon)

- ◆ The plan was last updated in 2008, and covers the general Triangle region.
- ◆ Ninna and Dale attended a meeting last week at the Triangle J Council of Governments. The purpose of the meeting was to identify missing links between governments. The meetings will be held roughly quarterly.
- ◆ The work is ongoing, and BPAC should continue to be involved in this group.

J. Staff Report / Questions / Announcements

◆ Project Status Report (Dale McKeel)

East End Connector: Plans are being updated, and Dale attended the Final Field Inspection for the project. Dale noticed that the plan appeared to be lacking in bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure and asked for an additional review by BPAC.

The Development Review Committee will review the plans next month, and Jim and Dale will provide copies of the plans.

- ◆ The City is still pursuing the Beltline project.
- ◆ The ATT project let opening has been delayed until January 25, 2012 due to a dispute between NCDOT and the Federal Department of Labor regarding wage rates.
- ◆ The annual retreat is tentatively scheduled for Saturday January 21, 2012 at Duke, in Perkins Library.

K. Adjournment

- ◆ *Erik moved and Jim seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously and meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.*