



Monday December 14, 2015
Hooker Conference Room, Bloomington City Hall
MINUTES

An audio recording of the meeting is available upon request

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Members present: Paul Ash, Kay Bull, Jaclyn Ray, Mitch Rice, Jim Rosenbarger

Staff: Vince Caristo – Planning & Transportation; Scott Robinson – Planning & Transportation; Neil Kopper – Planning & Transportation; Chris Meade – Planning & Transportation

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the November 16, 2015 meeting were presented by staff.

Paul moved to approve the minutes as presented. Jim seconded. Motion passed.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

II. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

Paul said there should be more coordination with the County (staff, officials, etc.)

Jim asked members to think about changes that could be made on Allen St between Walnut St and the B-Line trail to make it better for walking. He asked staff for volume and speed data for this corridor, as well as on Allen St between Walnut St and Henderson St.

Jaclyn gave some thoughts on the BikeLife magazine.

Mitch expressed concern about T-intersections that do not have marked crosswalks but are difficult to cross on foot – Highland & 3rd, Highland & Atwater, 6th & Indiana, and others.

III. REPORTS FROM STAFF

a. Engineering Update

b. IU Bicycle Master Plan

Vince presented an overview of the plan, which was accepted by the IU Board of Trustees at their December meeting. Key recommendations of the plan include: proposed shared-use path connections closely following the Jordan River floodway, from Indiana Ave to Union St; proposed shared-use path connections roughly paralleling E 3rd St, from Indiana Ave to Union St, and a ‘bike hub’ in the vicinity of Ballantine Hall. The plan does not make any recommendations along 10th St, 3rd St, Indiana Ave or other conflict areas on the edges of campus. Mitch said we could contribute to the plan development by focusing improvements to these edge areas.

c. BBC Grant

Vince presented the BikeLife magazine proposal as the leading idea for the upcoming BBC grant deadline. He shared positive feedback from the City of Tuscon and Boulder about the project. There was a discussion about the \$2,500 cost, and whether it was a good deal. Paul suggested that we might do better by piggybacking on the Parks and Rec guide for reduced printing and mailing costs. Jim suggested we should pursue multi-year funding from the BBC.

d. Statute Research

Chris presented some research on bicycling and walking laws in peer states and communities relating to the following topics: sidewalk riding; earphone restrictions; hand and arm signal; riding as close as practicable to the right-hand curb. The P&T Department is preparing for possible city code updates, and would like feedback from the Commission on aspects of the code relating to bicycling and walking. There was a significant discussion of the pros and cons of changing the City’s blanket prohibition on sidewalk riding. Vince said we would continue discussion of particular issues by providing safety research and staff recommendations.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. E 3rd St Spot Improvement

Neil took feedback on a possible design change on E 3rd St, from Mitchell to Rose Ave. He’d like narrow the existing westbound bicycle lane to add a new eastbound bicycle lane. Currently, eastbound cyclists ride uphill and are forced to ride in the travel lane. This change could be achieved by mechanically grinding off the existing striping, or waiting for the street repaving.

b. Letter to Incoming Mayor

Discussion of the idea of engaging the incoming Mayor, John Hamilton, to attend an upcoming meeting, to share his priorities for bicycling and walking and discuss how the Commission could help. Jim agreed to help draft a letter.

VI. TOPIC SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

-none-