

MINUTES
BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY COMMISSION
6-16-2013

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Members: Present: Paul Ash, Jaclyn Ray, Sylva Johnson, Jim Rosenbarger

Staff: Vince Caristo- Planning
Scott Robinson - Planning
Laurel Waters - Public Works

Non Members: Katie Claser, Henri Venable, Keith Romaine, Cynthia Brethem, Danielle McClelland, Amy Roche, Adam Quick, Chris Sturbaum

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Paul Ash made a motion to approve the minutes from May 19, 2014. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed. Minutes approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Paul stated he didn't receive the packet. His e-mail will be double checked.

Jim asked if the new members would like to speak about what brought them to the Bike & Ped Commission.

Sylva stated she had moved back to Bloomington after several years in Los Angeles having grown up in Monroe County. She was involved in the bicycle kitchen which is similar to the Community Bike Project, as well as other events. Sylva added she was encouraged when she saw all the bike initiatives that have happened while she was away and wanted to be part of it in the future.

Jaclyn stated she moved to Bloomington two years ago from Toronto where she was involved in bike projects. She is settling in and starting a business and has time to dedicate to joining the bike community.

Jim added they are both from two great urban centers and welcomed them.

Vince added that there was another appointment, Nick Metzger, but was not able to make this meeting.

V. REPORTS FROM STAFF

6-16-2014 Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission Minutes

Farmer's Market Tabling

Vince told the Commission that Saturday, July 19th, would be a tabling event at the Farmer's Market. This is to do outreach to the community. He asked for volunteers between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. If anyone is interested they were asked to get in touch with Vince. There will be yard signs available to show to people. He hopes to have bike lights and bells to distribute as part of the Civil Street Campaign, as well as all the literature. This was done last April and was both fun and successful. The table will be on 8th Street in "information alley."

Bicycle Instructor Corps

Vince explained there was a grant applied for through the bicycle club last year for \$1500 to pay for the training of five people to get certified through the League of American Bicyclist Cycling Instructor program. The goal is to help improve options for comprehensive bicycle education for people in Bloomington. Vince said he has been the only person certified since Raymond Hess left the City, and can only schedule one class a year. The program is open as of last week. Applications are being accepted to join the program. The program will pay for the training, as well as support and marketing courses, setting up logistics, site for education course, and helping to strategize with the instructors to get people to come to the courses. The application process will be open through July 1st. Also, staff has arranged for a League Cycling Instruction Seminar to occur in August. The applications will be looked at during a work session on July 14th. If there are more than five applicants the Commission will help with the decision. The applicants will be required to go through the certification program, as well as teach at least one course per year in the next two years, and also to participate in a twice annual meeting with the other instructors and staff. A press release will go out from the Mayor's office.

Environmental Commission's Climate Action Plan

Vince explained this is a document that the Environmental Commission has been working on for a long time. They are looking for feedback on all sections of the plan. The Transportation portion was included for the Commission to look through and comment. Vince asked that any questions or comments go to him and he will forward them on to the appropriate person. At the July 7th work session there will be a presentation from the Environmental Commission on this document.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

6-16-2014 Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission Minutes

Local Motion Grant Presentations

Vince explained all the applicants have submitted Letters of Intent. The idea is to have a dialogue between Commission and Applicant so questions can be answered, and suggestions given that will help with the applicant process. Final applications are due on July 7th.

Scott Robinson stated each applicant will have 10 minutes to give their presentation and then allow a little time for questions.

Presentations were as follows:

Buskirk Chumley represented by Danielle McClelland. McClelland explained the event is Bloomington Cycles. This is an event that has been in the planning process for several months. There are multiple commitments, so the event is going forward. Involving Local Motion and a larger spectrum of the bicycle community through this grant would be a good idea. The Bloomington Bicycle Club and Bloomington Bagel Company are current sponsors. With the help of this grant there can be some additional activities that could go on during the day. The hope would be to coordinate the planned "Open Streets" event on the same day, possibly using Kirkwood in front of the theatre as part of that street closure. Events happening at the theatre are very visible and could be a marketing machine for the Open Streets event. There could be riding events, and repair booths since there would additional space. The current budget anticipates revenue at \$2,750. Potential expenses are \$4,265. This leaves a difference of \$1515 which the Local Motion grant could make up. With the help of the grant it would make it possible to reach out to newcomers in the community, specifically IU students. This would help pay for the additional marketing that could go out with orientation materials. Bloomington Cycles event is scheduled for October 5, 2014. Tickets for the event are \$5. BCT has a long standing relationship with the Boys & Girls Club and Big Brothers/Big Sisters and free tickets are given away to those groups.

Cardinal Spirits represented by Adam Quick. He gave a brief history of Cardinal Sprits, which is an urban distillery. Adam stated in Fort Collins they stayed in a hotel where they were provided with free bikes that were sponsored by local breweries. Cardinal Spirits idea would be to provide free bikes for tourists to borrow while visiting town. Hopefully those visitors will be pointed in the direction of bikeable attractions along the B-line. Visitors would be able to see more of town if they had access to a bike. There is currently no bike share program in Bloomington. Each bike would come with a bike map to point visitors in the right direction. The grant would cover the estimated start up costs would include bikes, assembly of the bike, helmets and locks, and legal fees. Total costs for starting this program would be \$3300.

Middle Way House represented by Katie Glaser. Katie and her partner would like to put together a bike library for Middle Way House. The idea is to introduce bicycling as a mode of transportation for these women, as well as the benefits bicycling brings. Middle Way House is a domestic violence shelter located on South Washington Street. There are

approximately 190 clients annually, which does not include children, which will be included in the bike library program. Middle Way is in the heart of downtown Bloomington where there is amazing bicycle infrastructure. There are barriers to women and this library hopes to meet some of the barriers and fix them. The bike library will be two pronged, provide bikes and provide education. Bikes will be provided for leisure, exercise and commuting. There are two programs already in place which this program will be mirrored after, Cycles for Change, in Minneapolis, and Nellie's. Nellie's is a Toronto based domestic violence shelter who have had a successful bicycle share program for three years. Both programs are helping structure the Middle Way House bike library. All bikes will come with safety equipment. The larger goal is to outfit the bikes for commuting which is what the Local Motion Grant will be used for. Examples would be child carrier, rack, or something that would make the bike an actual option for transportation. The program has three bikes ready to go. The women will be trained on where and how to ride as well as simple maintenance of their bikes. The funding breakdown: 70% will go to outfit bikes for transportation including the transportation of children and cargo; 20% of funding will go to bike upkeep and mechanics, and 10% will go to educational classes and gift cards to award participants of the program.

Cynthia Bretheim represented the Prospect Hill Neighborhood. Cynthia stated they are looking at a proposed bike trail and to enhance the transportation of new residents in the 650 new apartments that are to the west of Prospect Hill. There are 450 residents currently in Prospect Hill. They want to protect the feel of the community and provide for the safety of bicyclists and walkers. They asked to continue W 3rd Street as a one way to discourage cars from racing through the neighborhood since they are core neighborhood streets, and leave them for bikers and walkers. They would use the money to paint a bicycle trail on West 3rd Street. The neighborhood voted to do a 10 percent match of the \$1500. Chris Sturbaum added he realized infrastructure could not be funded this way. The neighborhood has thought about two options to get safely through. One is connecting through Rose Hill, which will take awhile, and the other would be creating a Howe Street Bike Trail, starting on West 3rd, to Walker, to Howe. It was thought this new pathway could be temporarily signed to introduce the Howe Street pathway to folks moving into the apartments.

The Mountain Folk LLC did not have a representative to present.

Bloomington Community Bicycle Project & Friends were represented by Amy Roche and Keith Romaine. They would like to see more folks take advantage of winter cycling. This would include education on how to bicycle in the winter, what clothes to wear, what tires to use, etc. They would like to have events to encourage more people to come out and try winter bicycling. They would like to develop an app so people could get on social media to alert the City to paths that need to be cleared, and well as to let riders, as well as walkers, know which routes are best for any particular day. They would like to recruit about 50 people and have a kick off event in October with workshops of different topics pertaining to winter cycling, maintenance, gear, clothing, etc. Their budget is very flexible, it could go toward materials and incentives. The goal is to have fair weather cyclists see that winter riding is a viable option for transportation.

Scott Robinson thanked everyone for applying, and congratulated everyone. He was very pleased with the breadth and scope of the requests. This is the first year for the grant.

Vince explained going forward there is a work session set up for July 7th. This is the date applications will be due.

Scott stated in the guidelines the decision was stated to happen by the end of August.

TOPIC SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Jim suggested these be e-mailed as topics are thought about.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.