

Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2009 McCloskey Conference Room 135, City Hall

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings from the meeting are available in the Planning Department for reference.

Attendance

Citizens Advisory Committee (Voting Members): Chair Jack Baker (McDoel Gardens NA), Vice-Chair Patrick Murray (Prospect Hill NA), Natalie Wrubel (League of Women Voters), Buff Brown (B-TOP), David Walter (6th & Ritter NA), John Kehrberg (citizen), Ted Miller (citizen), Joanne Henriot (Bryan Park NA), Elizabeth Cox-Ash, and Laurel Cornell (Prospect Hill NA).

Others In Attendance (including Non-Voting CAC Members): Bill Milroy (Old Northeast NA), Ray Hess (BMCMPPO staff), and Scott Robinson (BMCMPPO staff).

- I. Call to Order (~6:30 PM)**
- II. Approval of Minutes** - The minutes from the August 26, 2009 meeting were accepted with one correction.
- III. Communications from the Chair** – Mr. Baker informed the policy committee about the CAC efforts on the long range vision statement and prioritization. He also mentioned that the City made an offer to purchase the I-69 hardship acquisition property for affordable housing and thus no action was taken on the INDOT’s TIP amendment request. Discussion ensued. Mr. Baker informed the CAC that Susie Johnson and Bill Williams will serve on the TE selection committee.
- IV. Reports from the Officers and/or Committees** – There were no reports.
- V. Reports from the MPO Staff**
 - A. FY 2009 Annual Completion Report** – Mr. Hess provided a summary of the BMCMPPO activities for the 2009 fiscal year. There were a few minor questions on specific work elements and spending levels. There were no further comments.
 - B. North Campus Area Study** - Mr. Hess gave the background on the most recent public workshops, the current status of the study, as well as the next steps of the process. Mr. Baker asked if the consensus from the workshops was favoring the two-way alternative. Mr. Hess said currently that seems to be the preferred alternative. Mr. Miller said that the two-way alternative does not exclude the bus only option. Mr. Brown asked if there was a response to the CAC resolution. Mr. Hess explained that it was provided to the consultants, Indian University, and the City of Bloomington. He said that it would not be further analyzed, but the two-way option still lends itself to the bus only option. Mr. Milroy is concerned about how the improvements would impact Old Northeast Neighborhood and prefers the current conditions. Discussion ensued and Mr. Baker would like to see a summary of the public comments in the final report. Mr. Miller asked that the study area show College and Walnut Street to give a better context.

C. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Projects – Mr. Hess explained that all ARRA projects have sufficiently met the final INDOT submittal requirements. He also explained that the issue with the decorative signal pole for the City’s signal modernization project has been addressed. Mr. Brown asked if ARRA funds are used for Bloomington Transit and Mr. Hess explained that ARRA funds were approved last spring with several TIP amendments.

D. CY 2010 Meeting Schedule – A meeting schedule was provided for the committee to review and Mr. Hess asked if there were any schedule conflicts so he could reserve the meeting room. There were no concerns.

VI. Old Business

A. Long Range Vision Statement/Project Prioritization Discussion FY 2009-- Mr. Baker asked for volunteers to work on this as a sub-committee. Mrs. Cox-Ash, Mr. Brown, and Ms. Henriot volunteered. Mr. Robinson said staff would facilitate the sub-committee meetings and would contact everyone to arrange the first meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Transportation Enhancement Projects – Mr. Robinson explained the TE process, the TE funding requests, and the recommendations of the TE Selection Committee. Mr. Baker said Ms. Ryterband’s e-mail message is consistent with the staff report and asked for a motion. Ms. Cornell made a motion to support the TE prioritization funding recommendation as presented and Mr. Murray seconded. Mr. Brown said that he is disappointed that these three projects don’t make it safer or better for bicyclists and pedestrians and a bike boulevard would be a better project. Ms. Cornell said a discussion would be helpful to identify the best TE projects. Discussion ensued. The motion passed (7-3-0).

VIII. Communications from Committee Members

A. Topic Suggestions for future agendas – Mr. Baker mentioned Ms. Cornell’s suggestion about TE projects. Mr. Miller said the benches on the B-line trail are very uncomfortable and different benches should be used. Mr. Murray suggested a discussion on neighborhood traffic calming. Mr. Brown suggested that we look at ways to improve pedestrian conditions and change the current culture to support bikes and pedestrians. Mr. Robinson mentioned that the City would install electrical outlets in the parking garages to support electric vehicles as a follow-up from last month’s meeting.

IX. Upcoming Meetings

- A.** Policy Committee – October 9, 2009 at 1:30pm (Council Chambers)
- B.** Technical Advisory Committee – October 28, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. (McCloskey Room)
- C.** Citizens Advisory Committee – October 28, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. (McCloskey Room)

Adjournment (~8:05 PM)

These minutes were accepted by the CAC at their regular meeting held on October 28, 2009.

(RCH 10/28/2009)