

Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Board
Meeting Agenda
Thursday, February 21, 2013
Location: 120 Irby Hall, UCA Campus

Members present: Peter Mehl, Erik Leamon, Duston Morris, David Barber, Michael Yoder, Todd Ake, Jim Bruce, Lynn Schaefer.

Absent: Curt Amenta, Greg Reddin, Jim Holland

Ex-officio present: Finley Vinson

1. January 2013 Minutes: **Lynn will send out corrected minutes** and they will be approved next meeting.
2. Nominations for BPAB Vice Chair: Todd Ake's nomination was approved unanimously.
3. Recap of Meeting with Mayor: Peter and Todd reported on their meeting Mayor Townsell, at which they discussed the Community Challenge, a week-long challenge in May asking people to ride their bikes to work, for errands, etc. (not for exercise) instead of driving. Extending it to a one-month challenge and getting city funding were discussed. Todd has written a proposal requesting \$450 for prizes and awards. The mayor was agreeable and suggested more signage and public service announcements, such as banners around town promoting the 3-foot rule (the city would pay for public awareness efforts). Erik suggested that the BFC committee, whose next meeting is March 6, could put together a proposal on signage and public service announcements.

Funding for trails was also discussed at the meeting with the mayor. Finley sent David Vondran's email address to the BPAB Google group so that more information can be obtained about the current trail status.
4. BPAB logo and Website – David talked to Aaron Knight, who said he had been communicating with Wes about the website. David will contact Aaron and cc Duston to figure out the status. Todd suggested April 1 as a target date for having the website up and running with an approved logo.
5. SRTS Budget Discussion – David reported that he has been contacted by the Lil Campus Cats Wellness Expo people. He will cc Jim Bruce after he talks to the expo representative again. Jim said Wes had approved giving out laminated bookmarks and the CAB board had approved offering helmets as door prizes at the Expo (April 25).

Duston suggested taking the trailer to the expo and doing some activities such as bike relays. Duston can tow the trailer.

6. Street problem areas: The following problems were discussed—

- College between Farris and Salem is a high foot-traffic area that does not have a sidewalk.
- There is no sidewalk in front of the UCA Alumni Pavilion between Farris and UCA football stadium.
- In some locations, there are large “lips” at the entrances to business parking lots, which can cause bikes to crash. Finley suggested that we talk to Ronnie Hall, city engineer, about this issue; Ronnie would like to have an ordinance governing driveway aprons, and this issue might be the perfect catalyst for such an ordinance being passed. David suggested that the ordinance could also address sidewalk problems. **Peter will talk to Ronnie about it.**
- Street-sweeping: Finley explained that there is only one city employee who sweeps the bike lanes (not bike routes, not sharrows) once a month, and to do so more often would require hiring another street-sweeper. David expressed concern that a city the size of Conway has no official mechanism for informing the city about street problems; people simply call the city streets department to report problems, but if the city has other priorities at the time, those problems are put on a back-burner. He thinks there should be a website and/or an email address. Erik said that BPAB should be the contact for street problems affecting bicyclists, and how to publicize that role of BPAB was discussed. Finley also suggested that people should contact their aldermen about desired street improvements.
- The intersection of Highway 64 and Hogan needs work, but this is a county road and not city property. Finley said that if it were city property, a roundabout would be put in. The city can fund improvements at that location, but the mayor and aldermen will have to be convinced that it’s important enough to fund even though it is not city property.
- Washington Street needs to be repaired; the section from Fleming to the roundabout at Tyler is currently being resurfaced; the section further south, from the roundabout to Front St., should be on the list for next year.

Finley will email us an update with answers about street problems. Erik thanked Finley for attending the meetings and providing information.

7. Meeting with police department – Peter reported on his meeting with Chief Gary, who prefers that BPAB have a meeting focused on enforcement so that he or another police department representative is not required to attend every BPAB meeting.

A recent accident involving cyclist John Ed Moore and a driver was also discussed at the meeting. The driver was issued two serious citations, but there was concern that he was not issued a citation for violating the 3-foot rule. Chief Gary told Peter that the citations given to the driver were more serious than the three-foot citation, but Chief Gary said that the officer working the accident had not even been aware of the 3-foot rule. Chief Gary said it would be brought up at the next training session.

In addition, targeted enforcement during the month of May was discussed. Chief Gary would like to see public awareness campaigns about the 3-foot rule and other issues. Chief Gary himself rides his bike.

Peter said that Jeff Anderson is back on the police force as a liaison for public events; he feels we should keep Jeff in the loop by sending him our agendas. Peter also suggested sending out the minutes and agendas to certain people such as the mayor and Chief Gary but not all of the messages between BPAB members.

8. Current projects: Duston expressed concern about the number of projects BPAB has going on and the lack of progress on them. He said he would prefer to focus on fewer projects but get more accomplished and cited the Commuter Challenge, BPAB website, and public education (signage, etc.) as priorities. He's especially interested in putting up billboards, such as one that North Little Rock has about the 3-foot rule, on Dave Ward, Harkrider, and other highly visible locations. Peter added that he would like to see an evaluation plan to assess where the city is weak and where it is doing well in terms of being a bike- and walking-friendly community.
9. Committee Updates: Michael gave a short update on the WFC Committee. Some of his students in a geography class doing a service-learning project are working with Wes to get citizen input about problem areas. Wes will be able to use the information gathered in the sidewalk master plan, which will be the basis for the WFC application.
10. New member: Jim Holland needs to be replaced on the board since he has missed three consecutive meetings, which, according to the bylaws, is considered as a resignation. Jim Holland was a school representative, so his replacement needs to be someone with an interest in working with the schools. **Jim Bruce will contact possible school reps at the Wellness Expo.**
11. Other discussion:
 - David suggested trying to make contact with new Hendrix president about developing sidewalks on the perimeter of the campus.

- Erik reported that COG (Central-Arkansas Offroad Group) will meet with the city council next Tuesday to seek their official approval for the Blaney Hill mountain bike park project.

12. Next meeting: March 21 at Irby 120, UCA. Lynn will not be here.