

Minutes 3/16/2014 - Special BPAB meeting on enforcement

Amanda Potter Cole, being the chair of the enforcement committee, chaired this meeting.

In attendance:

Members: Todd Ake, Amanda Potter Cole, Peter Mehl, Adam Davis, David Barber, Jim Bruce, Michael Yoder, Erik Leamon, and Jessica Spayde

Ex Officio: Chief A.J. Gary, Wes Craiglow

Guests: Jeff Anderson (Conway Police Dept.), Bob Cole (Conway Police Dept.), and Joe Lamb (Log Cabin Democrat)

- New member Jessica Spayde. **Wes will let us know when council will vote to approve her.** Amanda, Todd, and Adam reported they met with Spayde. They reported she is very passionate about the topic, has children in school, and has organized events, worked with organizations, etc.

- Arkansas Coalition on Obesity Prevention (ARCOP) had a summit to which Adam went. Because he attended Conway is now eligible to apply for additional grants, to be awarded July 1, must be used by December. Wes will write and manage grant if BPAB lets him know what we want to apply for. **Amanda will send us full information on grants.** We can probably get up to 8K/grant, and up to 3 grants. Adam noted that at the ARCOP meeting he was told we should connect with Casey Covington.

- Last month's minutes were approved.

- Bob Cole distributed a data sheet with accident data for the last 12 months. 26 accidents, 17 ped and 9 bike. 2 fatalities. Identified problem areas were cars backing up in parking lots, and bikes entering the road from the sidewalk. Identified problem locations were major arteries, Oak St. and Harkrider.

In discussing the fatality accidents, in both cases poor lighting was determined to be an issue.

On the subject of parking lots, it was noted that the police can't do a great deal because it is private property. It was noted that stop signs can only be enforced if they are full regulation sized stop signs. Wes noted the 'Vision Zero' movement to eliminate all traffic fatalities.

[More info: <http://www.visionzeroinitiative.com/en/Concept/>]

Adam distributed a list of bike traffic laws he received from Pam Sweeney. It was noted that a more complete list including all levels of law should be created.

Citations were discussed. Chief Gary said mostly warnings were issued, usually for no lights. Wes suggested we pursue an awareness campaign followed by an enforcement campaign.

It may not be illegal to ride bike on sidewalk outside of downtown area.

Signage in parking lots might be a way to prevent parking lot accidents.
All new large parking lots are modular. We might want to let place know their stop signs need maintenance. Wes can call if we request.

Crosswalks can help enforcement, but only count if they are properly marked. Most are not properly marked.

Many intersections require drivers to pull into crosswalk area for visibility.

A motion to contact Kroger re: stop signs was tabled.

The enforcement committee will meet quarterly to discuss incidents.

What to do when an incident occurs that does not meet criminal threshold. Education may be the key more than enforcement.

Amanda asked CPD what is enforceable even if a police officer doesn't see it?

Response: a report can always be filed. If there is identifying information (e.g. license number), the report can be given to a prosecutor. The prosecutor may choose to pursue. If there are multiple reports on an individual the likelihood of prosecution increases.

Chief Gary noted that better than a report might be to enter info into CAD which is searchable, and a report could be run without impacting police resources as much as filing a report would. Call 450-6120 to report.

It was noted data we were looking at was Conway PD only, not UCA PD. Amanda hopes to get UCA reports as well next time.

Conway PD website is putting 'rules of the road' back on their site, will add more info if we provide it. LaTresha does facebook which could also be used to disseminate info. The PD could also link bank to BPAB website to provide more info.

- Bike month - flyer from CAB distributed. A focused enforcement program will be run in May.

- Discussion of laws and questions about Conway Running Club were discussed. Wes suggested we request they establish a set of guidelines.

An ordinance for using streets at night was discussed. Wes suggested discussion first.

Amanda would like enforcement committee to assemble a full list of laws.

Rules re: parking in bike lanes - there aren't any. However, a 'no parking in bike lane' sign would be enforceable, and could be placed where needed. It was suggested that a blanket ban on parking in bike lanes would be unfair to homeowners.

PD quarterly training includes bike/ped laws. Internet based training.

[Note - story appeared in 4/18/2014 paper

<http://thecabin.net/news/local/2014-04-18/bicyclepedestrian-board-more-enforcement-needed> "Bicycle/pedestrian board: 'more enforcement needed'"]