



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff

PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, December 9, 2010
4:30 pm

City Hall, Council Conference Room
211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:36 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Kim Austin, Co-Chair
Heather Taylor, Co-Chair
Joyce Browning
Georgia Duncan
Cecile LeBlanc

Members absent:

Rebecca Snow

One vacancy

The following City staff was present:

Martin Ince, Multimodal Planner

Others present:

Jack Welch
Barbara Wells
Van Wells

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Ms. Leblanc reported that she has restarted her walking blog, and is looking for walkers to profile for a "Wednesday Walkers" feature.

2. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

3. Approval Of Minutes

Ms. Taylor made, and Ms. Duncan seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 18, 2010 with one correction. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Walk Friendly Communities Application

Mr. Ince asked for the Committee's help in completing the 3 essay questions at the end of the Walk Friendly Community application. The 3 questions and the Committee's suggested responses are listed below:

What are the three primary reasons your city deserves to be designated as a Walk Friendly Community?

- 50 miles of FUTS trails
- A nationally recognized Safe Routes to School program
- The existence of the PAC
- An overall commitment to pedestrians in Flagstaff

What are the three aspects of your community most in need of improvement in order to accommodate pedestrians?

- Completing FUTS links
- Better snow removal; better job keeping sidewalks and curb ramps clear of trash cans, weeds, and cinders
- Increased enforcement
- Education of motorists regarding pedestrian safety, awareness, and traffic laws

How can your community leverage its designation as a Walk Friendly Community to increase the number of people walking and make walking safer?

- Would help the City compete for pedestrian-related grants
- Brings recognition to Flagstaff which boosts tourism and conference attendance
- More awareness of walkability means more people will walk
- Enhances livability and affordability

2. Pine Knoll FUTS Trail – Safe Routes to School Grant Application

Co-chair Austin reported that she is working on responses to the five E's, in particular the Evaluation section. The Committee recommended including in the grant application a connector trail from the FUTS to the school. Volunteer labor from the school could build the connector trail if the grant paid for materials.

3. FUTS Trail Priority Evaluation Report for 2011

Mr. Ince presented an update of the five-year capital plan for FUTS and a corresponding map, which were adjusted to reflect FUTS trail priorities as recommended by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committees.

4. Flagstaff Walks!

Ms. Leblanc recommended that Flagstaff Walks! events should be spread out over a month to ease the time pressure of holding all of the events in a week. The Committee concurred.

Ms. Leblanc also recommended that a subcommittee be formed for planning the events, rather than taking the Committee's regular meeting time.

The Committee discussed several ideas for this year's Flagstaff Walks!:

- The Festival of Science is a potential partner for events
- Flagstaff Walks should be modeled after Bike-to-Work-Week; businesses should be involved and employees should pledge to walk
- Events could start in September, and culminate with International Walk to School Day
- Planning meetings should start no later than May
- The disability audit should be brought back in partnership with the Disability Awareness Commission
- The Sustainability Walk with Willow Bend and the Sustainability Commission should be repeated this year
- Car Free Day in September would be a good match if Friends of Flagstaff's Future is intending to host it again this year
- Friends of Flagstaff's Future may help organize the event. Mr. Welch reported that he has been contacted by the new FFF board president, who expressed an interest in having more involvement in the PAC
- Ms. Leblanc told the Committee to feel free to find a new logo. Co-chair Taylor suggested a call to artists, like is done for each year's Bike-to-Work-Week poster.
- Grants might be available to help with funding

- Mr. Welch said that he conducts a series of walks for Route 66 Days, which takes place after Labor Day weekend. He is intending to expand the series. He also said that he is interested in incorporating geocaching, although he is not sure how.

5. Zoning Code Update

Co-chairs Austin and Taylor reported on the City Council discussion of the new ordinance.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. FMPO Highway Safety Improvement Program

Mr. Ince provided a brief summary of the FMPO's Highway Safety Improvement Program, which has \$600,000 available annually for projects. He described several potential projects which would improve safety for pedestrians.

Co-chair Austin said the Woodlands Village Boulevard FUTS crossing was an important project.

2. FUTS Planning Discussion

The Committee discussed several ideas for a survey of FUTS trail users:

- Include a link to the survey in City water bills
- Survey Monkey can help tabulate responses
- A display in the library would also help promote the survey
- Keep the survey simple, and have questions reviewed

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

Co-chair Austin reported that the Council voted to prohibit drinking in Bushmaster and Ponderosa Parks by a vote of 6-1. The Police Department will assess the effectiveness of the ordinance in a year. She said the ordinance has been in the works for 18 months.

2. Announcements

There were no Concluding Announcements.

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V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 pm.