



# MINUTES

## City of Flagstaff PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4:30 pm Thursday, May 8, 2008

---

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

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Georgia Duncan, Chair  
Sharon Grasso  
Heather Taylor  
Kathie Oehme  
Jim Tuck

Members absent:

None

Two vacancies

The following City staff was present:

Trevor Cooper, Flagstaff Police Department  
Gerry Craig, Traffic Manager  
Martin Ince, Multi-Modal Planner

Others present:

Kim Austin, Coconino County Safekids  
Jim McCarthy  
Jack Welch

### **I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **1. Announcements**

The PAC asked if new appointments to the PAC could be placed on next week's Traffic Commission agenda. There are two current vacancies, and another anticipated after the June meeting.

**2. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**3. Approval Of Minutes**

Jim Tuck made, and Kathie Oehme seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 10, 2008. The motion was approved unanimously.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Enforcement Strategies**

Officer Trevor Cooper of the Flagstaff Police Department said that they see very few accidents in school zones. Most violations are either speeding or failure to stop. He said there was a particular problem at Sechrist School, which he partially attributed to the fact that Highway 180 is more of a higher-speed highway than a neighborhood street. He said the police do enforcement when they can, but it is usually not often.

Gerry Craig wondered if visitors through that area might contribute to the problem. Officer Cooper responded that it is usually parents or high school kids.

There was a discussion about the role of crossing guards, who are trained by ADOT. Several schools are missing crossing guards because it is difficult to fill the positions.

There was a discussion about the possible use of photo radar to help nab speeders. The police are generally wary of this technology, because it can create bad public relations. Kathie Oehme commented that it should be done with a lot of education in advance. The Committee discussed the effectiveness of giving warnings, issuing tickets, and education.

The idea of progressive ticketing was brought forward, whereby an offender is given educational materials for the first ticket, a warning for the second, and a ticket for the third. Officer Cooper indicated that the computer access may have to be improved before that is possible.

Double fines in school zones were approved in 2006, but a check of the Municipal Court's fine schedule revealed that fines in school zones were higher, but not double.

## City of Flagstaff - Pedestrian Advisory Committee Minutes

May 8, 2008

Page 3 of 4

---

Heather Taylor suggested a targeted enforcement activity as part of Pedestrian Awareness Week. There was a discussion about including the media in advance to help make the public more aware. The additional funding generated by double fines may be helpful to pay for additional officer duty.

Ms. Oehme brought up the issue of bicycles on downtown sidewalks. Martin Ince distributed a map that shows where sidewalk riding is prohibited on downtown and southside streets. Officer Cooper said that sidewalk riding is enforced by officers on walking beats.

Sharon Grasso suggested making the sidewalk riding rules more known. Officer Cooper agreed that education would be valuable in this case.

There was discussion about extending shared lane marking for bicyclists to the north end of San Francisco Street. Officer Cooper said he would like to see more cyclists using the shared lanes. The Committee considered the role that downtown parking ambassadors might play in education and enforcement.

The Committee agreed that a safety pamphlet would be a very useful tool. Kim Austin added that since many sidewalk riders are students, it should be distributed during back-to-school activities. Mr. Tuck suggested a joint project between the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committees. The Committee discussed distribution of a safety pamphlet during Bike to Work Week, at places where students and cyclists would have access to it, and on the NAU campus.

Kim Austin agreed to compile a draft safety brochure for the July meeting and to enlist the aid of Lizette Melis on the Bicycle Advisory Committee. The brochure would focus on bicycle and pedestrian safety and etiquette on sidewalks and trails, and could include the map and rules. Versions of the brochure could be targeted to NAU, high schools, and elementary schools. The Committee's goal would be to have the information ready for back-to-school in August, although it may already be too late for NAU.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Committee took the following actions:

Ms. Oehme made, and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion to prepare a draft bicycle/pedestrian safety pamphlet for the July meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Tuck made, and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion to draft a letter for the next PAC meeting making a recommendation to the Traffic Commission encouraging stepped-up enforcement and offering to assist and work together. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **City of Flagstaff - Pedestrian Advisory Committee Minutes**

May 8, 2008

Page 4 of 4

---

Mr. Tuck made, and Ms. Grasso seconded, a motion to request staff to research what is necessary to enact double fines in school zones. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Committee also suggested expressing to the Police Department how useful and appreciated it is to have an officer present at the meeting.

### **IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **1. Reports**

There was no discussion on the reports.

#### **2. Concluding Announcements**

There were no concluding announcements.

### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm.