



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4:30 pm Thursday, March 13, 2008

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Georgia Duncan, Chair
Mike McDonald
Heather Taylor
Jim Tuck

Members absent:

Sharon Grasso
Kathie Oehme

One vacancy

The following City staff was present:

Martin Ince, Multi-Modal Planner
Gerry Craig, Traffic Engineering Manager
Stephanie Smith, Environmental Services

Others present:

Jack Welch
Kim Austin, Coconino County Safekids
Joan Entz
Cynthia White, Friends of Flagstaff's Future
Doug Thomas
Darrell Boomgaarden

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Mike McDonald announced that he has accepted a consulting job in Ashfork for the next nine months, and as a result will be resigning from the Committee after tonight's meeting.

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Martin Ince said he would provide information on term expirations for members of the Committee.

2. Public Comment

Cynthia White introduced herself as the new executive director of Friends of Flagstaff's Future. She said she was considering applying for the vacant position on the PAC.

Darrell Boomgaarden asked if the PAC could get an update on the chemical de-icer experiment.

3. Approval Of Minutes

Jim Tuck made, and Heather Taylor seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 21, 2008. The motion was approved unanimously.

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. PAC Goals for 2008

Chair Georgia Duncan asked for a list of top goals from each of the PAC members, then from the public, in each of the five E's.

The following goals were suggested. The number in parenthesis indicates how many "votes" a goal received.

Encouragement

- Participate in Safe Routes to School (7)
- Lead and expand Pedestrian Awareness Week (4)
- Produce a community walking map (3)
- Conduct community walks and other events (3)
- Promote walking and hiking clubs (2)
- Support youth walking programs (2)
- Provide wayfinding signs
- Support an after-school walking program

Enforcement

- Investigate and encourage targeted enforcement in school zones (9)
- Double fines in school zones
- Police bike and foot patrols
- Status of ped-related laws

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Evaluation

- Compile and analyze crash statistics (3)
- Plan and prioritize pedestrian projects (2)
- Community feedback and involvement (2)
- Development of ped plan (2)
- Ped counts

Engineering

- Build more sidewalks and FUTS trails (8)
- Sidewalk maintenance and snow removal (5)
- Accessible routes (4)
- Ped network (4)
- Intersections and signals
- More visible signing in school zones

Education

- Motorist education (5)
- Distribution of safety and educational materials (4)
- Educational opportunities for adults and children (2)

The Committee reviewed and then narrowed the list of goals to the following:

Encouragement

- Participate in Safe Routes to School
- Lead and expand Pedestrian Awareness Week
- Produce a community walking map, and promote community walks and other events

Enforcement

- Investigate and encourage targeted enforcement in school zones

Evaluation

- Compile and analyze pedestrian crash statistics

Engineering

- Build more sidewalks and FUTS trails
- Encourage sidewalk maintenance and snow removal

Education

- Improve motorist and pedestrian education

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Snow removal from public sidewalks

Stephanie Smith, Environmental Code Specialist with the City's Environmental Services Division, provided a presentation on the City's Safe Sidewalks program.

Some of the major points from the presentation include:

- Last year's focus was outreach and education; this year's effort is enforcement.
- Voluntary compliance is very important to the program.
- The City's ordinance applies to absentee landlords as well.
- A total of 352 complaints were received in 2007-2008; hundreds of letters were sent out; 74 notices of violation were issued; and all but 4 properties were brought into conformance.
- City code also requires removal of cinders from sidewalks.
- The City's Streets Division is trying to be more careful about piling snow on the sidewalk.
- In the future an assistance program will be explored, whereby neighbors help each other.

Ms. Smith also provided copies of program fliers and thank you cards that are sent to property owners who are doing a good job.

2. FUTS Map Update

This item was continued to the April meeting.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

Gerry Craig announced that construction had commenced on the Butler and Humphreys median project, and showed the PAC plans for the project.

2. Concluding Announcements

There were no concluding announcements.

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V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 pm.