



Special Meeting
MINUTES
City of Flagstaff
PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
4:30 pm, Thursday, August 9, 2007

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
Mike McDonald
Jim Tuck

Members absent:

Becky Daggett
Kathie Oehme
Heather Taylor

The following City staff were present:

Martin Ince, Multi-Modal Planner

Others present:

Lizette Melis
Jack Welch

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

There were no announcements.

2. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

3. Approval Of Minutes

Minutes from the August 6, 2007 regular meeting will be reviewed at the regular meeting of September 13, 2007.

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Pedestrian Awareness Week - International Walk to School Day

Jim Tuck announced that Mountain Line will participate in Pedestrian Awareness Week with a "Try Transit" day, on which all bus boardings are free. They have not determined a day, but leave it to the PAC to decide. They want to fit into the week as appropriate and not over shadow pedestrian activities.

Jack Welch provided a tentative schedule for the week, which is Sunday, September 30 through Saturday, October 6.

There was a discussion about the best day for "Try Transit." Mr. Welch suggested having on the same day as a bus-hike, which are scheduled for Monday, Friday, and Saturday. Saturday was ruled out because Monday or Friday could be used to encourage commuters. Monday was settled on as the best day because it could be promoted at the Farmer's Market on Sunday.

Sharon Grasso commented that Mr. Welch's tentative schedule looked great, and was ready to approve as is. Mr. Welch responded that it is still a draft.

Regarding the neighborhood walkability survey, Mr. Welch expressed a preference for using the survey form provided by SafeKids, which can be obtained for free from the SafeKids Coalition. He said the survey would be conducted in the neighborhood near Kinsey School. He has observed few kids walking to that school, and wants to explore why more kids don't walk.

Lizette Melis said that she was planning to walk the neighborhood to find a convenient drop-off place for the walking school bus.

The Committee decided that Monday would be the best day to conduct the survey, as it could help to promote International Walk to School Day on Wednesday.

Mr. Welch explained that a walkability survey consists of gathering a group of about 6 to 8 volunteers who walk the neighborhood and identify opportunities and obstacles to walking in the neighborhood. Dan Burden has led surveys in Flagstaff in the past, but they were looking for local walk leaders. Martin Ince and Gerry Craig were suggested as possible local walk leaders.

Ms. Grasso suggested having someone who lives in the neighborhood, possibly a block watch volunteer or a representative of the PTO.

City of Flagstaff - Pedestrian Advisory Committee Minutes

August 9, 2007

Page 3 of 4

Mr. Welch said that the group should present the results of the survey to the larger community. Follow-up is very important to the success of the survey. Previous groups have taken issues identified in the survey to the Traffic Commission.

Ms. Melis announced that SafeKids will be at the school open house at Kinsey on August 29. There is also an open house planned for the same night at Sechrist School. She said that 1,000 kids walked during last year's event. This year a fourth school is being added, and she expects the number of kids to increase to 1,200. She handed out a list of schools and volunteer coordinators, and announced that additional volunteers were still needed. Ten volunteers are needed at each school. The PAC is sponsoring the event at Marshall School.

Mr. Welch said he is making contact with each school, and asked if anyone had a contact at the school.

Ms. Melis said she intends to advertise walk to school day at the open houses of the participating schools. She will also promote the event at the school in the weeks leading up to the date. Mr. Welch offered to find the dates of the open houses for her.

Mr. Welch said the schedule and location of the hikes will be set by Monday. Mr. Tuck commented that once the schedule has been finalized, promotion can begin.

Mike McDonald asked if the Disability Awareness Commission (DAC) will participate. Mr. Tuck replied that they are in the middle of planning their annual banquet. He commented that it is sometimes difficult to find a place to include them because there is a range of disabilities to accommodate.

There was a discussion about possible projects for the DAC during Pedestrian Awareness Week. Mr. Welch mentioned the idea of an accessibility guide for downtown, starting at the Visitor's Center. He was concerned that there would not be time to organize a guide for this year's event.

Mr. Tuck suggested discussing a potential project on the next DAC agenda. Mr. McDonald commented that it would be a benefit for the PAC to understand and be more informed about mobility issues for disabled people.

Mr. Tuck wondered if there were a walkability checklist for disabled access. If so, that might make a good event for the DAC. He will bring it to the next DAC meeting, which is scheduled for August 21. Friday was chosen as a tentative date for the DAC's event.

III. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. REPORTS

There were no reports.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no concluding announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:19 pm.