



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 13, 2015 | 4:30 pm

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Heather Williams, co-chair
Kim Austin, co-chair
Joyce Browning
Georgia Duncan, vice-chair
Adam Langford
Cecile LeBlanc
Jim Tuck

Members absent:

None

The following City and agency staff were present:

Ben Anderson, intern
Libby Champagne, Sustainability and Environmental Management
Martin Ince, multimodal planner
Stephanie Stearns, NAIPTA

Others present:

None

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Ms. Duncan announced that she is moving to Denver, and September will be her last meeting.

Mr. Tuck reported that the sidewalk along the south side of Pine Knoll is under construction.

Mr. Langford said that NAIPTA has received a Section 5310 grant from ADOT to bring 52 bus stops into ADA compliance.

The Committee wondered how Jack Welch is doing following the fire in his apartment complex.

2. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment

3. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Duncan made, and Ms. LeBlanc seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meetings of July 9, 2015. The motion was approved unanimously (7-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Flagstaff Walks!

Libby Champagne with the City's Sustainability Program made a short presentation about Parking Day as a potential event for Flagstaff Walks! She said the event involves temporarily closing parking spaces along a street and transforming them into creative "parklets." The events are intended to bring attention to quality and value of public space.

The City has obtained a permit to close 5 parking spaces for parklets along Mikes Pike on Friday, September 18, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

Ideas for activities include a bike repair station, yoga classes, and an NAU student planning group-led activity. The City's Sustainability Program will have one of the spaces.

The PAC will include Parking Day in the list of events for Flagstaff Walks! Ms. Champagne asked the Committee to forward any additional ideas for activities to her.

The Committee continued planning for other Flagstaff Walks! events:

Arizona Trail Day

- Need to confirm the trail walk with Jack Welch

Science in the Park

- SafeKids will provide giveaways

Community Market

- Art Babbitt has given approval for the PAC to have a table
- Jim and Cecile will staff the table on September 20
- Jim will be present on the September 27
- Cecile will be present on October 4

Theme Walks

- Will be covered by Jack

Progressive Breakfast

- Kim is preparing an itinerary

Geocaching

- Adam has been practicing, and intends to use a smartphone app

Crossing Guard Appreciation

- Kim will contact Karin Eberhard to have the schools arrange something
- If there will be a proclamation, there should be an event at which it can be read. The PAC settled on the September 29 Council work session as the preferred date. Martin said he would get it on the schedule

15-minute Makeover

- Need to arrange for litter grabbers and trash bags through the community steward program

Bus passes

- The request is under consideration at NAIPTA
- Passes may be more appropriate as prizes than as giveaways

2. Pedestrian master plan

Mr. Ince presented the results of the mode share trends and peer communities comparison working paper.

3. Basis School pick-up/drop-off issues

Mr. Langford reported that NAIPTA's route deviations on Pine Cliff/Gemini have been expanded to 4 pick-up/drop-off times to allow more flexibility for students. The changes have been in effect for only a week, so it is difficult to judge any changes in ridership.

Anecdotally, NAIPTA has sold significantly more K-12 passes than in previous years. So far this year 200 passes have been sold; last year 52 had been sold at this point. NAIPTA also offers training classes at any school that requests one.

The Committee suggested another observation once the route has been up and running. Ms. Williams and Ms. Austin will schedule and let the PAC know.

Ms. Austin said she is compiling a synopsis of the observation at Basis School and a list of recommendations.

There was a discussion about the impact of schools on traffic congestion, and how to encourage more transit use, walking, and biking.

Mr. Anderson said that things work fairly well at FALA, but it was a struggle to get to that point. It takes resources and an on-going effort. It helps that FALA is smaller than both NPA and Basis.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. ADA sidewalk and curb ramp work

Mr. Ince reported that the issues reported by the resident at last month's meeting was forwarded to the City's streets department. The section of San Francisco north of Forest would not be fixed until next year at the earliest as part of the Street Repair program, so Public Works staff was looking into the possibility of repairing the damaged asphalt at the corner in advance. The cinders on the curb ramp were cleared by the Code Enforcement section.

Mr. Ince said that sidewalks and curb ramps were brought into compliance with ADA standards when significant work was done to the street as part of the Street Repair program. For example, if the street were rebuilt the ADA work would be done. The work was not done for surficial treatments like chip seal or seal coat.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

The Committee expressed concern about how people use the pedestrian crossings, specifically that they were not cautious when crossing the second leg. The PAC asked if pedestrians were able to see that the light is flashing.

Mr. Langford said that NAIPTA's service changes have gone into effect, and some adjustments have already been made. He also reported that they were awaiting a NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) for the Section 5339 grant program.

2. Announcements

There were no Announcements

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:56 pm.