



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 13, 2017 | 4:30 pm

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Denise Wynne, chair
Jodi Norris
Zach Schwartz
Jack Welch
Amy Young

Members absent:

Brandon Cruickshank

One vacancy

The following City and agency staff were present:

Martin Ince, multimodal planner

Public present:

Chuck Hammersley
Matt Mitchell

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Announcements

Ms. Norris announced she was traveling to Germany and would miss the next meeting. She said she intended to study the pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure while she was there.

2. Public Comment

Mr. Mitchell made a short presentation on the need for barriers along the shoulder of the Fourth Street bridges over I-40. He asked if anything could be done in the interim, such as putting up candlesticks as a temporary measure. A question was asked regarding whether the PAC had submitted a letter in support of the City's TIGER grant to rebuild the bridges.

Mr. Hammersley made a presentation about the proposed Flagstaff Open Space Parks and Recreation bond (FOSPR). He explained that it would be a 1/8 cent sales tax that would be used to fund specific parks, open space, and trails projects. He has been making presentation to other City commissions, as well as to a variety of community groups. He anticipates that a steering committee will be formed to discuss the details. The idea is predicated on the rate of growth and development in Flagstaff; there is a small window to acquire open space, parkland, and easements for FUTS trails. He would like to be on a future agenda as a discussion item, and for a possible letter of support.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Welch made, and Ms. Young seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 9, 2017. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Active Transportation Master Plan

This item was not discussed.

2. Flagstaff Walks!

The Committee continued planning for events on the 2017 schedule:

Festival of Science – Science in the Park

- Ms. Wynne can assemble some information related to the physical benefits of walking
- Mr. Schwartz is willing to help on the day of the event
- Ms. Wynne and Mr. Ince will collaborate to complete the application

Theme walks

- Mr. Welch and Mr. Ince will contact walk leaders

Community Market

- Space is very limited at the Community Market, and the organizers give priority to vendors with produce and goods
- It may help secure a spot if we are able to provide bike parking for patrons
- Locations just outside of the market may work, but should be away from conflicts on the street
- Mr. Welch and Mr. Ince to discuss with Art Babbott

Parking Day

- Not sure if student groups are willing to organize

Try Transit Day

- Mr. Ince to discuss options with NAIPTA

15-Minute Makeover

- Still a question as to whether the City will be hosting the event

Trail clean-ups

- Two members will help organize an event every other month
- All members are invited to participate
- June-July: Jodi and Zach
- August-September: Martin and Amy
- October-November: Jack and Denise

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of officers

Ms. Wynne made, and Mr. Welch seconded, a motion to elect Brandon Cruickshank as chair of the Pedestrian Advisory Committee. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Schwartz made, and Ms. Young seconded, a motion to elect Denise Wynne as vice-chair of the Pedestrian Advisory Committee. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

2. SB1273 Electric Bicycles

Mr. Ince presented information on SB1273, which adopts state legislation to define and regulate the operation of electric bikes. The Committee discussed the issue of electric bikes on FUTS trails, and had several questions and comments:

- Because of their speed, Class 3 e-bikes may be dangerous in places like FUTS trails that are shared with pedestrians
- Class 1 and 2 e-bikes are probably okay on FUTS trails
- Gas-powered motorized bikes are not appropriate on FUTS trails
- Local bike shops should have an opportunity to provide input
- It would be helpful to have a demonstration of the difference classes of e-bikes, especially for pedestrians
- There is a concern that there may be additional conflicts in the future as trails become more heavily-used. There may already be congestion issues on some trails, like Buffalo Park
- When and where do we decide to build wider FUTS trails that provide separate space for bikes and pedestrians
- Pedestrians and bicycles on sidewalks is already a problem in some locations
- There is a concern that e-bikes will lead to additional friction between pedestrians and bicyclists
- Education will be a crucial part of the roll-out of any new legislation
- What is the anticipated timing of the legislation, and how much time does the City have to react
- What would help the police in their efforts to enforce the new legislation
- Is it possible to require e-bike companies to provide information regarding safe operation and courtesy on shared-use facilities.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Reports

There were no Reports

2. Announcements

There were no Announcements

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.