

Minutes 9-11-03 Bike/Ped Task Force

Present: Jeff Burns, Joseph Viola, Susan Peterson, Terri March, Paul Endry, Tony Hauser, Tom Redinger, Stuart Cowles, Monica Kirschner and Claudia Nix.

We had to move our meeting to the City Hall because the Training Room was locked when we arrived. We apologize to anyone had trouble finding our meeting.

Jeff gave reports on progress of Greenway projects in the community that should improve cycling needs along the Swannanoa & French Broad Rivers. Tom informed us that one of the road projects for “Moving Ahead” will involve Hwy 251 with paved shoulders. This will benefit cyclists tremendously. Tom also heard that NC DOT plans to fund enhancements to our roadways whether the Transportation Bill gets passed or not and the NC Bike Program will have a planning team in the near future.

The group then tackled the process of defining our Vision Statement using a tool provided by Terri March from the community toolbox called VMOSA. It proved to be a very valuable tool and enabled us to accomplish our goal. We will continue to use this tool for the rest of our work.

Our chosen Vision statement is as follows: **“A community of connected pathways that is healthy safe and accessible for all ages.”**

The final action of the day was to draft a letter to Congressman Charles Taylor stating our displeasure with his vote against the enhancements in the transportation bill. Claudia will rewrite the letter and bring it to **our next meeting, Thursday, October 16th 5:30 pm** at the Buncombe County Training Room, for all to sign.

We will also ask Jay Swain to attend our next meeting provided there is no problem with city staff. Jeff is checking on this for us.

Homework for next meeting: To save time each member is asked to answer the following questions and send them on to Claudia to compile on charts before the meeting. We will then develop our mission statement.

Remember that our mission defines what we are going to do. Why we are going to do it. It is more concrete than our vision and more action oriented. It can refer to the problem. Don't go into detail. Just hint to it broadly. What are we working to achieve?

1. What do you hope to accomplish as a result of the coalition's efforts (what is your purpose)?
2. How do you plan to accomplish these goals?
3. For whose benefit does your coalition exist?

Please send your answers to claudianix@libertybikes.com

Thanks.

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