

Minutes 8-19-2004 Bike / Pedestrian Task Force

Attendees: Jack Saye of the Greenway Commission, Kristopher Hinz, Joseph Viola, Tom Redinger, ET, James Latimore, Paul Endry, John Chmelik, Monica Kirschner, Claudia Nix

A new meeting time was determined to ease the number of meetings in one day for city staff. All present agreed to meet on the 4th Thursday of the month instead of the 3rd.

The name contest did not produce any names that excited the Task Force members enough to make the change. Kris also mentioned that if we change the name we would have to change our web page address which would cost us more money. With this information we decided to table the idea of changing our name.

Terri March was not in attendance so we did not have information on the Merrimon Ave. Corridor evaluation. Hopefully she can update us in September.

Work Tasks:

Kris gave an update on the web site. A beginning site is up and operational. It does have minutes from our meetings on it. Cane Creek Cycling Components, a local parts manufacturer paid the \$95.00 for the web hosting. We greatly appreciate their generosity. They have some rough links, want to have a calendar, short term and long term priorities of our group listed and have a way for Task Force members to communicate with each other. Kris and Blake are to have a meeting next Tuesday and home to have things more developed for October.

We are still looking for problem drain grates. Several were mentioned at the meeting: Kenilworth Rd, Hwy 25 by McDonalds, Biltmore Forest by golf course, Merrimon Ave by Reeces Tire, and one in the bike lane on Riverside Drive. If you see more please email to ET.

A problem with bike safety signage was brought up on the path on Weaver Blvd crossing the Botanical Gardens driveway. It is difficult to see as drivers come out of the parking lot. ET will look into possible signage or mirror for motorist to make sure that this is a safe intersection for cyclists and motorists alike.

Claudia reported on the PSA progress. She has been working with Charter Media to develop a series of PSA's the first one should be ready to be aired this fall. She has raised \$3,000.00 for the airing of these PSA's. Charter has agreed to give us equal amount of free spots for each one we pay for. The question was introduced whether we want a fund raising function or use other group funding raising processes available. The Blue Ridge Bicycle Club is heading up the collection of the funds for the PSA. Folks interested in donating funds for airing the PSA can make out their check to BRBC. In the for slot of the check put advocacy - PSA. Someone suggested checking with Wal-Mart on their community grants.

ET gave an update on the city bike plan and pedestrian plan.

Several suggestions were made regarding other projects in which folks would like to see our Task Force involved:

1. Have an Official Incident Report locate it on our web site so folks involved in an accident or harassment could fill out. Monica agreed to think about what should be involved in this report. Need to ask Hwy Patrol what they have and what information would help them.
2. Work on getting the police to enforce the yield for pedestrians in crosswalks. (Michael Luther & Joseph Viola interested in this project.)
3. Perhaps tie this in with the Safe Routes project.

The Blue Ridge Parkway Forum will be Saturday, Sept. 25th from 10-3 there is no charge and lunch is included. Registration is at 9AM. It will be held at UNC-A Reuters Center.