

Minutes July 22, 2010

Vision: For Asheville to be a community of connected pathways that is healthy, safe and accessible for people of all ages.

Mission: To educate the public about bicycle and pedestrian transportation. To advocate for the development and maintenance of safe, convenient and inter-connected facilities. To promote the benefits of walking and biking for individuals and community health.

Members present: Lou Lieb, Stephen Jones, Barb Mee, Tom Redinger, Linda Giltz, Gwen Wisler, Lee Pirtle, Dwayne Stutzman, Vicki Rowe-Currence, Katie Chappel, Terri March and Claudia Nix.

We had a lot of brain storming and discussions and did not get to all items on our agenda this month.

DOT LETTER:

This item generated a lot of discussion. We reviewed the answer to our letter to Jay Swain, District Engineer for NC DOT, by one of his staff members, Anna Henderson, who works on signaling. Her response was that it was not possible to change the phasing because it would hinder the flow of traffic on Merrimon Ave. which they have been trying to correct. They have placed a regularity sign to the right of the roadway and are willing to put another overhead on the signal wire to help remind motorists making left turns to yield to pedestrians. This set off a discussion on how we should proceed with a campaign on this issue. One question posed was is this the most important intersection in the city? We said yes but I have had second thoughts. There are a number we need to consider and perhaps we should do a concentrated campaign on them together. Gwen agreed to write up the issues discussed so we can evaluate how to proceed next time. Some of the possible contacts are: Edgy Momma, Luella's, UNCA (Garrett Mail) & Keith Ray, Dwayne will talk to Susan Fisher, others legislatures need to write letters, businesses, Norwood Park neighborhood.

The meeting with Bobby Croom on Hospital Drive was very positive. Bobby was to redraw the plan with the suggestions and he will report back to us so we can help with educating the public on what will happen.

Barb's report on Stimulus projects and other bike related projects: The

Linden Avenue side walk is under way. The Choctaw sidewalk and bike lanes are in progress. Hillard will be the last one (this fall), Ashland and Martin Luther King bike lanes will be going down soon. Clingman Ave should be complete by end of the year. Bike lanes on the bridge will happen toward the end of the project.

The Depot Street sidewalks are done, Hendersonville Rd. sidewalks are done, Evelyn St will be last to have sidewalks installed.

The Sidewalk in East Asheville is very short from Governor's View crossing in front of the church to Beverly Road and is presently being installed, the top-a-stop bus shelter is now assessable. The Patton Avenue sidewalk from Regent Park to Leicester Hwy will begin soon. The Louisiana Road side walk is done to the Jewish cemetery. Mr. Moss signed the agreement and they are putting a fence in instead of the shrubs so the sidewalks can go in.

Web site:

We reviewed the web site did some brainstorming on additions we'd like to add. We need to improve our links and get other groups to link to our site.

Links to Eat Smart Move More and fit community web site

Link our incident report to the BRBC web site

Add new Op ed articles

Enhance our advocacy work by adding information

Have sample letters that individuals can write. Provide more information on the various issues on which we are working specifically policy changes.

Enhance how folks can get involved.

Describe the difference between lobbying and advocacy

Add Buncombe County Greenway Commission

Other things to think about are: who do we want to have linked to us? – Katie will look at bike shop web sites.

Develop Business cards for bike shops to hand out to customers with information about our group.

Develop an educational training section for new members, under who we are section.

Have terminology and other helpful information

Archive the old news so the site has more organization to it

Link to CAN Neighborhood association

New member orientation should include FAQ Frequently Asked questions

Who are the key players who do we interact with?

Who is a member and these are the tools you need to be active in this group.

Here some of the terminology that would help you

www.EatSmartMoveMore.com/ACES/texts/070317_aces/aces.html

This tool will help us.

Lou Lieb and Heather, Terri, agreed to work on this project.

Announcements:

Volunteers needed for bike corrals Aug 20 BRBC & Sept 17 Healthy Buncombe

Doing Corral for Bele Chere

Public comment for LRP