

Minutes January 26, 2011 Bike /Ped Task Force

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.

Introductions: We had record attendance of 19 people

- Matt Fusco, Tony Hauser, Barb Mee, Joanne Laurent (works with blind), Chelsea Ernst with UNC-A, Carl Marzella and Joy Ponder both of Asheville fire dept., Kristy Carter of NC Commerce Dept., Zak Altheimer, Gwen Wisler, Terri March, visitors McCray Coates of the city water dept., Bill Roark of McGill and Assoc. working on the Lake Craig project, Vicki Rowe-Currence, Kris Hinz & Claudia Nix, Till Dohse, Sgt. Rondell Lance and Boyd McCaskill both of APD,

Old Business:

- December ABPTF meeting minutes – reviewed/approved

New Business:

- Guests – McCray Coates- City Water Quality program, is excited about Lake Craig (Azalea Park) project because it show the city working on many projects; flood mitigation, roadway rehabilitation and relocation & a new water line going in for soccer fields. They have partnered with Army Corp of Engineers and McGill & associates helping. They are open for us to make any comments regarding this project. Are adding sidewalks from Swannanoa River Road to rec park across bridge and to soccer field, adding new section of roadway to make one way pair possible. Phase 1 is funded which is stream stabilization and new road. Two way traffic on section from Swannanoa Rd over bridge to Gashes Creek Rd so residents don't have to go extra distance. Another public meeting on **March 1**, 4 to 7 PM at RENSI center in Grove Arcade. They have started NEPA process.

- APD Bike light give-away program update. Kris explained program and our desire to work with APD to make Asheville safer for cyclists & pedestrians. APD staff suggested working in concentrated areas on designated days to effectively give away lights to cyclists riding w/o them. Need to work on documentation before starting program. Will wait for APD ideas.
- After finished with Bike Friendly application a small group will work on branding the Task Force and improve & refine Vision & Mission. Zac, Vicki & Kris agreed to work on this. Will meet after Task Force meeting Feb. 23rd.
- SNTD – will be held week of May 21st kick off May 18th at After 5 Festival. Program will be similar to previous years, may have a community ride, commuter stations may be in evening on way home to encourage more participation, Kickoff of workplace challenge at YWCA March 21st. Want to involve bus riders and walkers more this year. Would love more Task Force members to be involved.
- French Broad MPO – Lyuba Z not present.
- Claudia's updates - New Alliance for Walking & Biking benchmarking. Cities & states with higher levels of each have lower levels of fatalities. Out of 51 cities Raleigh is 43 in level of participation and 32 in fatalities, Charlotte is 44 in participation and 42 in fatalities, out of 50 states NC is 43 in participation & 44 in fatalities. Go to www.PeoplePoweredMovement.org/Benchmarking for more information.
- NC DOT Complete Streets out for comment. PHC group hopes to have suggested comments for individuals. Comment accepted till Feb 21st.
- Transportation Bill needs our help. Senator Hagan & Burr need to be reminded that RTP Recreational Trails Program need to retain dedicated funding in Transportation bill please call them about this. The House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee which Shuler is on is voting on Feb 2 on their bill. SRTS Safe Routes to School and RTP have lost dedicated funding & are lumped into a grouping of high profile Enhancements like bridge improvements. This is not acceptable because they will lose out on funds. Please let him know.
- A NC group of individuals are planning a statewide Bike Summit. It will be held at NCSU McKimmon Center on Oct 12 & 13 Fri & Sat. They want your ideas so please take their survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NCBikeSummit>.

- Gwen & Barb Charlotte Street scape meeting date changed now on Feb 6th at 6:30pm at Jewish Community Center. Please come and support this effort to improve streets for biking & walking.
- Barb received complaint by a cyclist having problem light on Amboy Road. DOT won't let us put the stencil on the road but there is a white line of paint where cyclist should stand to get it to change.
- Asheville was listed as 37 hippest cities out of 50 due to # of used bike sales.

Post-meeting project work – BFC Application Project Team Barb, Kris & Claudia stayed to work on

- Question #17 combined both options.
 - Announcement at Nat'l Summit, celebration afterwards unless we find out before then! We need a big party & publicity. Let's discuss at next meeting.
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