

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
City Hall & Zoom Meeting
4:00 PM November 2nd, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm, by Denise Jeska.

1. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Denise Jeska-Chair Disabled Community
Mike Fuller-Vice Chair General Public.
Amy Evans, City Council Liaison
Tom Morgan-Bicycling Community
John Bruning-NICTF
David Passaro-Bicycling Community
Mike Wood-North Idaho College
Mike Light-Landscape Architect
Henry DePew-Student Representative

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Monte McCully, Staff Liaison

STAFF PRESENT:

Monte McCully, Staff Liaison
Mike Kempton, Parks and Recreation

PUBLIC ATTENDING:

Bill Irvine

Five members present resulting in a quorum.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

3. APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES – Action Item

John Brunning made a motion to approve the October 5th, 2022, minutes, Mike Wood seconded the motion, there being no further discussion and all being in favor, motion passed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Irvine introduced himself to the committee. Bill shared that he has live in Coeur d'Alene since 1986 and is a fourth-generation resident of the area. He added that he has written a book titled 'Loosing Home' about the city and is an avid bicyclist. He explained that his interest in the committee was to help promote bicycle commuting and "Bike to Work Week". He spoke about the importance of addressing climate change and how promoting bicycling for short trips would be beneficial. Monte replied by discussing some of the city's plans to improve connectivity and how incorporating a 'Bike Friendly Business' program could help expand bicycle commuting and improve the city's 'Bike Friendly' score. Mike Fuller added that work place accommodations and creating a bicycle commuter challenge would also work towards these goals.

5. STAFF REPORT

Monte McCully reported that the Centennial Trail between Atlas Road and The Prairie Trail has been resurfaced after the water line installation was completed, but that the work did not meet compaction test standards and will have to be redone next spring. As part of this project the adjacent slopes have been recontoured to improve ease of maintenance. He also let the committee know that the section of the Seltice Trail on the south side of the road fronting the Atlas Mill project is closed and will have to be rebuilt after all of the earth work associated with that project has been completed. He finished by informed the committee that the Idaho Walk/Bike Alliance is writing the city and all other jurisdictions in Idaho asking for support from the state legislature in expanding funding for pedestrian infrastructure improvements.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Ped/Island on Coeur d'Alene Lake Drive

Monte spoke about the need for a pedestrian island in the middle of that roadway due to the width of the road, the amount of pedestrian and bicycle cross traffic and new developments on the east side of the road. He mentioned that this crosswalk should also have a rapid flashing beacon. Mike Fuller suggested that the committee put together a presentation for city council and the nearby business owners to promote this project. Monte stated that he would work with the city engineer on the project.

- Council Recommendations

Monte explained that it was decided to make this subject a reoccurring discussion item so that when needed, committee recommendations will be discussed at this point in the meetings.

- Grants

Monte led a brief discussion explaining that securing grants for infrastructure improvements was tied into the Sidewalk Mapping project. Mike Fuller shared an article from the Spokane Spokesmen Review about inaccessible sidewalks in Washington and how they impact those with mobility limitations by preventing them from being able to travel or live in areas with deficiencies in their pedestrian network. He added that according to the article that **litigation, not policy** has become the primary driving force of accessibility improvements. David Passaro shared that he had contacted the State of Idaho's Pedestrian and Bicycling coordinator and that he received extensive information about grants and educational opportunities.

- Sidewalk Mapping

Monte explained that the city has been divided into areas and that various committee members have volunteered to map all but one of the individual areas, that being the northwest section of the city. Bill Irvine volunteered to map this area of the city if the committee agreed. All were in favor of this offer.

- Council Workshop

Monte explained that the committee used to host a workshop with council about once a year, but that it has been several years since that has happened. He suggested that the committee should plan for a workshop and invite the city council to attend this January. Amy Evans, recommended that the workshop be scheduled in February instead due to issues related to scheduling around the holidays. It was agreed by the members that February would be a better target date. Monte spoke about getting a presentation together for this work shop.

7. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS – Information Items

- Awareness/Advocacy/Education:
No update
- Infrastructure:
No meeting, but the sub-committee is working on the sidewalk mapping project and plans to have this completed before the next committee meeting in December.
- Bike and Walk Friendly-Ad Hoc:
Mike Light informed the committee that this sub-committee had met and discussed what was needed to improve the city's current bike friendly status and to achieve a pedestrian friendly status. He spoke about improvements needed regarding ped/bike access across the Interstate and on Government Way. He also explained the importance of separated bikeways to make bicycling commuting safer and more user friendly. Monte briefly spoke about the impact that the planned expansion of Interstate 90 would have in addressing some of these issues.
- Bike to Work Week:
David Passaro let the committee know that they have not had a sub-committee meeting yet, but that he now has all of the historical files related to past Bike to Work Week events.

8. ROUND TABLE – Information Items:

Monte introduced Henry DePew as the newly appointed student representative. Tom Morgan discussed the number of bicycles donated by the Coeur d'Alene Bicycle Co-op and the search for space due to having to vacate their previous location. Mike Light shared that his experience mapping sidewalks was eye opening and that he is identifying other issues affecting pedestrian and bicycling connectivity such as signage, intersection design and street lighting. David Passaro informed the committee that the official 2023 dates for 'Bike to Work Week' are May 15th through May 21st. He had checked the weather history and recommends using those dates for the City's event. He also asked who should be contacted about vegetation impeding sidewalks. Monte shared that contacting Code Enforcement would be the correct avenue to report these types of issues. John Brunning related that the Centennial Trail Foundation board watched a presentation from the Idaho Transportation Department on the planned project to widen Interstate 90 at their last meeting. He also shared that the foundation has received a lot of negative feedback about E-bikes on the trail and asked Monte to check with other agencies to see if they had any ideas on how to better regulate this relatively recent evolution in trail usage. Henry DePew introduced himself and shared that he was excited to be on the committee and looked forward to helping with next years 'Bike to Work Week'. Denise suggested that the city put together a wheel chair challenge in the winter to highlight the effects of seasonal conditions on accessibility issues. Mike Fuller informed the committee that a non-motorized seminar sponsored by the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization will be held on November 17th at 9 AM in the Coeur d'Alene Chamber of Commerce building.

9. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Wednesday, December 7th, 2022, 4 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 6.

Tom Morgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mike Fuller seconded the motion, there being no further discussion and all being in favor, the meeting adjourned at 5:29 pm.