

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
City Hall & Zoom Meeting
4:00 PM September 7th, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:09 pm, by Denise Jeska.

1. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Denise Jeska-Chair Physically Challenged Com.
John Bruning-NICTF
Mike Fuller-Vice Chair General Public
Mike Wood-North Idaho College
Mike Light-Landscape Architect
David Passaro-Bicycling Community

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Amy Evans, City Council Liaison
Max Bazler-Student Rep
Tom Morgan-Bicycling Community

STAFF PRESENT:

Monte McCully, Staff Liaison
Mike Kempton, Parks and Recreation

PUBLIC ATTENDING:

Six members present resulting in a quorum.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

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

John Bruning made a motion to approve the July 6th, 2022, minutes, Mike Fuller seconded the motion, there being no further discussion and all being in favor, motion passed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

5. STAFF REPORT

Monte McCully informed the committee that the City has been awarded the grant he applied for to extend the Prairie Trail from Huetter Road to Meyer Road. Additionally, the City of Post Falls has secured a commitment to extend the trail from Meyer to Prairie Avenue by the developer of the adjacent property. He further added that routine maintenance had recently been completed on the Prairie Trail, including trimming vegetation at the intersection of Player Avenue to improve visibility. Monte also spoke about plans to pursue future grants to replace the Mooring Docks at McEuen Park and more fire mitigation grants for the City's natural areas. He discussed the plans for the old railroad easement that the City currently is leasing from the Bureau of Land Management in the Riverstone area that includes soccer fields, pickleball courts, a pump track for bicyclist and a cycle course. Monte updated the committee about the Bear Waterfront Project which will include realigning the Centennial Trail at the intersection of Beebe BLVD, adding parking and creating a public plaza for events. Also, work is proceeding on extending the shoreline trail from Atlas Park towards Mill River Park by the property developer. He also updated the committee about ongoing work on the Centennial Trail and the earth moving work at the Atlas development. Finally, Monte was asked by David Passaro to look into the legality of the property owners restricting deed public access from the Bellerive docks during the 4th of July.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Bike to Work Week

Monte discussed the need to start planning for next year's Bike to Work Week through a new sub-committee. Several members expressed an interest in participating in this endeavor. The event is tentatively scheduled for late May and may include tee-shirts, organized rides, a bike parade and possibly a bike movie night.

- Sidewalk Mapping

Monte told the committee that he will send them copies of the files related to the sidewalk mapping program so that they can perform the required field surveys needed to identify gaps and deficiencies in the City's pedestrian network. After making field notes, the updated information will be added to GIS maps, creating a tool for planning improvements and pursuing grants.

- Grants

David and Monte recently met with the City Engineer, Chris Bosley regarding applying for Connecting Communities sidewalk grants. It was agreed that having the sidewalk mapping completed and updated would be beneficial in pursuing future grants. A conversation ensued discussing the City's regulation pertaining to where sidewalks are required by new construction and the City's history of funding sidewalk improvements. sidewalks

- CDA Lake Drive Trail Markings

David started the discussion by explaining the confusion shared by bicyclist and motorists when encountering the new striping and marking system that was recently applied by the City to the section of Lake Coeur d'Alene Drive from Sherman Avenue to Potlatch Hill Road. The new configuration reduced the roadway from four lanes to two lanes and added bike lanes on each side of the road, the southbound one being directly adjacent to the Centennial Trail. Due to inadequate markings motor vehicle traffic has been observed using the bike lanes. Monte explained that the City was planning additional pavement markings. David showed the committee pavement marking from a neighboring municipality that seemed to be more effective at providing clear direction to cyclists. He also spoke about the need to improve the surface condition of the bike lanes so that they can be used as intended.

- Membership

It was announced that the committee officially has one vacancy due to the resignation of Cory English. It was also asked if the Student Representative position need to be refilled and if the committee should consider replacing members that rarely attend the scheduled meetings. The need to recruit someone from either the educational or legal community was discussed.

7. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS – Information Items

- Awareness/Advocacy/Education:
No update
- Infrastructure:
No update
- Bike and Walk Friendly-Ad Hoc:
No update

It was observed that the sub-committees have not met in some time and a suggestion was made to have regularly scheduled meetings. It was generally agreed that a meeting should be scheduled for each sub-committee every other month. Monte agreed to write a meeting schedule and to add a sub-committee for the Bike to Work Week. David, Mike Light and Mike Fuller all expressed interest in participating on the sub-committee and Denise, Mike Wood and John also offered to assist.

8. ROUND TABLE – Information Items:

Mike Light updated the committee about the retirement of the East Sherman Avenue pilot project between 16th and 17th streets. John informed the committee that the Centennial Trail Foundation will install lighting on the Spokane River bridge near the state line next month and that the Ales for the Trail event at City Park was a success as it raised \$85,000 for trail improvements. David asked about the process to notify property owners that have vegetation encroaching on public sidewalks. It was suggested that he could work with the Urban Forestry section as they have a process they use to do this. He also expressed concern about the improper use of E-bikes on our trails and asked about the possibility of creating a cross country ski course in the city in the event that we receive adequate snow fall. Mike Wood asked if the City would consider installing NO STOPPING signs on Dike Road as he has observed motorists blocking the bike and pedestrian lanes while unloading vehicles. Mike Fuller related his recent experience of working as a bicycling tour guide and shared how positively the customers on these tours viewed the bicycling opportunities in the area. He also passed on how he had learned that other areas are having issues with E-bikes using excessive speed on bike trails and operating them recklessly.

9. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Wednesday, October 5th, 2022, 4 p.m., City Hall Conference Room 6.

Mike Light made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mike Wood seconded the motion, there being no further discussion and all being in favor, the meeting adjourned at 5:34 pm.