

Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee
Minutes from September 13, 2016
Lincoln Parks and Recreation – 2740 “A” Street

Members Present: Gary Bentrup, Parks Coble, Rick Dockhorn, Barb Fraser, Elaine Hammer, Delrae Hirschman, Jordan Messerer, Dalcyce Ronnau, Luke Pitts, and Susan Larson Rodenburg

Staff Present: Kellee Van Bruggen, JJ Yost, Lynn Johnson, Jeff Kirkpatrick, Lonnie Burklund, Shane Dostal, Rachel Jones

Visitors: Mark Palmer

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 a.m., followed by announcement recognizing regulations of the Open Meetings Act as posted by the door.

Introductions – each introduced themselves and gave a little background.

Minutes:

Approval of August 9, 2016 minutes: Moved by Ronnau, seconded by Coble.

Staff Reports:

Yost gave a report of Parks and Rec projects. Pioneers Park Phase III trail through the Pioneers Park Nature Center has been completed. There are a few things that need to be addressed, but doing well. It is a nice trail and all should visit. There is an open house Wed. night for the Jamaica Trail Rehab project at Walt Library. Construction will start soon and be complete by December 15 (Construction started September 6 and contract substantial completion is October 31 - ssh).

Old Business:

Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations in Construction Zones. Looking for direction from PBAC on next steps. Documents currently available seem to be adequate, but need to follow through. Check lists for preparing and reviewing accommodations could help. Need to be more careful about making sure contract specifications spell out accommodations. Also need to make sure the bike lanes are properly addressed. Currently a project at 13th street with no alternative. There is currently a painted detour with candle sticks to protect bikes. Have heard from those who have seen it that it is working well. This is what PWU has planned for future detour needs. This was originally discussed because of some detours that had some problems. There are current City policies that are primarily for ADA requirements. Is probably not as strong on the bike side. Will send the memo back out to others, including City officials.

Ordinance change. Took out the change for allowing bikes on sidewalks in downtown. Lots of negative public feedback when this was announced, comments and letters. Council members were not terribly supportive. Concerned that leaving it in would jeopardize the whole thing. Also added the 3-foot passing and electric bike definitions. Timeline is not positive yet, hoping for sometime this fall. Bike Share was one reason we were considering the change on sidewalks. What led to believe that allowing bikes on sidewalks would be beneficial for Bike Share? Difficult to show the territory where they are not

allowed. Will try to work out how to communicate this. Signs on Bike Share stations, signs as you enter downtown saying no bikes on sidewalks. Education will be part of the Bike Share effort. May also be a little more attractive to inexperienced riders to allow them on sidewalks. There are many violators on sidewalks. There are very few tickets issued. Many people have stories about nearly being hit by bicycles on the sidewalks. What education efforts are currently being made? There will be a campaign after the ordinance passes. Students are often the ones on bikes, may make a special effort to get the word out to them. Some also use sidewalks to go opposite the flow of traffic for a short distance. Will also take some change of the LPD culture. LPD will have to be made aware that bikes will have the legal right to ride in the cross walks as long as they are following the rules. Hammer, motion to send a letter of support of these ordinance changes, Coble seconded. Suggestion that all signage, particularly for Bike Share, be as positive as possible. Suggested a future change is that bikes should be allowed to use the full lane when it is too narrow to ride to the right and share with vehicle traffic. Need to keep in mind that if we want to have bikes off the sidewalk we need to provide more on street facilities. Motion to submit a letter to the Mayor in support of the direction of the ordinance change as discussed in this meeting. Should send a letter to the Council at a later date that supports the actual ordinance.

Unanimous

Discussed whether or not to send a letter to the Zoo to thank them for the change in their plans. Decided not to in light of the proposed relocation of Parks to a less desirable location.

New Business

Big Jump. VanBruggen discussed the upcoming Big Jump application through the People For Bikes organization. Looking at the Downtown and South of Downtown neighborhood and improving on street facilities. Would like to have a letter of support from this body. May also be looking for some representation on a future committee. Will bring back a draft of the application and some mapping of the proposed area in October for the review of the PBAC. Will consider a letter at that time. The application is due October 28.

“Slow Zones”. Johnson discussed an idea to establish “slow zones” in areas with heavy traffic or possibly when there is an event or volunteer activities. Could be permanent or temporary. Permanent signage can sometimes be ignored over time. The particular circumstances of the incident in Union Plaza may not have been addressed by signage. The police report indicates it was an incident that was entirely accidental. However, if we can help to mitigate some traffic situation for safety, this could be a positive thing. Discussion about the use of “On Your Left” as a warning to peds and slower bicycles. Sometimes, this can be a little panic inducing to slower users. Is this the best method? Need further discussion about how to promote proper and considerate use of shared space.

Other Items

Costco. Mark Palmer of Olsson Associates discussed preliminary trail suggestions. Striping, crossings and signage will all be used. There are neighbors that would like to see the bike trail re-routed north and around Costco. Keep the five foot sidewalk on Pine Lake road. Right in, right out is the greatest concern because cars tend to look only in the direction of oncoming traffic. Looking at many different options for traffic, bike and ped controls. There are flashing lights in the area for the school zone. There will be a user on the site at some time, so we will have to deal with this eventually. Probably need to pull the trail to the north at the Pine Lake entrance to allow for a car to pull forward before turning.

May be a future round-a-bout at Hazel Scott. Should maintain the trail where it is, with traffic control solutions, and include a sidewalk on the north. Could also use a traffic table to help make cars aware.

Adjourn 8:18