

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Time and Date: The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee met on March 30, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room of Wausau City Hall.

Members Present: Ruff (C), Plath, Gisselman, Winters

Others Present: Pat Peckham, McKinley Lentz (Wausau EGL student), Brad Lenz

In compliance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and transmitted to the *Wausau Daily Herald* in the proper manner.

Welcome and introductions

Chairman Ruff called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m. and welcomed members. He said Field is a new member who cannot be here today, but she will be a good addition to the committee.

Approve minutes of October 6 and November 17, 2014 meetings

Motion by Gisselman, second by Plath to approve minutes of both meetings. Motion carried, 4-0.

Update on additional decorative bicycle racks

Ruff said East High would not be able to make the kayak rack this year, but they would keep the design for next year. He said West High can continue to work on the U-shaped racks like the ones in front of city hall. Ruff said they will make ten racks, and he distributed a sheet showing possible locations. Discussion followed. The committee recommended one rack for Waldinger Investments at 6th and Scott, one for the Chatterbox, one for Valley Credit Union, four for the river edge trail, and three for athletic park.

Discuss Upcoming Events

Ruff said bike to work week will be the second week in May, with ride to work with the Mayor on May 11th. He said he would check with the Mayor's office on specifics. Committee discussed possibility of starting at various locations and having a gathering at city hall.

Ruff handed out information about a family bike safety event on Saturday, May 9th at the library. He said volunteers are needed for the family-friendly rides and other rodeo-style events. He said the event went well last year with 300 attendees and 200 bike helmets given away. He encouraged members to promote the event.

Ruff said Main Street Wausau is starting a new promotional event this year called First Thursdays, which will have different themes each month. The first theme will focus on transportation, such as biking and walking. He said with Field involved with the committee, we will hear more about this event.

Update on additional decorative bicycle racks

Lenz said that Plath had brought this up at a previous meeting. Lenz said the street was reconstructed a couple years ago, and the committee looked at it ahead of time. He said the committee liked the street pretty much the way it was – a slower-speed residential street with trees and decorative lights. He said the pavement markings haven't really been implemented, so that could be one potential area open for suggestions. Plath said he hasn't had a problem, but from the daily herald listening sessions, there was

some discussion about alternating the street parking. Ruff said Prospect Avenue is an alternative bike route to Grand Avenue, and it is part of the metro route system. Discussion followed. Lenz said he could take a look at the geometrics of the street to see what kind of accommodations could be provided, such as sharrows or bike lanes.

Future items for consideration

Lentz is continuing his project for EGL. He distributed a flyer on bicycle safety. He said he consulted with an elementary school teacher on some of the wording. Ruff said that this would be very helpful at some of the upcoming events. He asked that the flyer be emailed for printing.

Peckham introduced a project for providing lights to bicyclists who do not have them. He said he received money from local foundations and organizations to purchase lights and distribute them through the Neighbor's Place and the Police Department. He said there would be collection boxes at various locations to collect lights and reflectors from people who have extras. He said there will be an announcement kicking off the collection.

Ruff said some of the items discussed today will come back again next time, as noted earlier.

Adjourn

Plath motioned to adjourn. Winters seconded and the motion carried, 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee is next scheduled to meet on Monday, April 27, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.