

## BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Time and Date: The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee met on April 27, 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, Brad Lenz, McKinley Lentz (Wausau EGL student)

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**

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Chairperson Ruff called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m. and welcomed members.

### **Discuss Upcoming Events**

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Ruff said that the Mayor's office is willing to participate in an event at city hall if people were to bike there from various locations. There would be breakfast items available from 7:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. A press release will be sent out, it will be in the City newsletter, and will be posted on social media. Ruff said the Mayor will ride in from his house and be there at 7:30 a.m.

Ruff said in Kronenwetter there will be a bike and walk for the health of it event Thursday night. He said the Bike Rodeo will be on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Peckham and Ruff said that Everest Metro is also having a bike safety rodeo.

Bike and Walk to School Day is on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, so all of the elementary schools are participating. Ruff said prizes were given away last year as part of the Safe Kids Coalition. He said the library secured media spots for the bike rodeo, and he'll also try to plug the ride to work with the Mayor.

Ruff said he'd hold off discussing First Thursdays until other members are present.

### **Update on additional decorative bicycle racks**

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Ruff said that Wausau West is still in the process of making the racks, so it will be a few weeks. He reviewed the locations mentioned previously at the committee, including along the river edge trail, near the farmer's market and public restrooms. Discussion followed on the East Riverfront segment. Lenz said he can bring preliminary plans to a future meeting.

### **Discuss current bicycle accommodations on Prospect Avenue**

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Lenz brought drawings of Prospect Avenue when it was reconstructed a couple of years ago. He said there isn't really a typical section that applies to the whole street, but a few different conditions depending on where parking is allowed. He also said it is a bus route. He said the take-away is that there wouldn't be room for a full, designated bike lane throughout the whole stretch. In the areas with parking, it would be too narrow to add a bike lane. He said sharrows could be looked at in these sections, perhaps bike lanes in others, but it would be a mix of accommodations. He said that on most blocks a centerline was never striped; this could help a little bit by preventing cars from swerving all over the place. He said there is no budget this year for bicycle markings, but he could ask engineering to look at centerlines and perhaps some outside fog lines. He said when this street was up for reconstruction, this committee looked at the plans and didn't recommend widening it out, because there is a wider terrace with decorative lights and street trees, and this gives it more a residential, neighborhood feel, which in turn leads to slower traffic. He also said the transit director suggested that buses and bikes can co-exist on slower, residential

streets. He said that the street was reconstructed similar to what it was before. He felt it works out pretty well, but could be enhanced with pavement markings. Ruff said that there aren't a lot of cars parked on the street. Discussion followed.

Plath motioned to direct staff to work with Engineering on pavement markings for Prospect Avenue. Gisselman seconded, and the motion carried, 4-0.

### **Future items for consideration**

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Ruff said that Lentz will be working on the flyer for the bike rodeo.

Ruff described a partnership with Channel 7 on an ad campaign; he wanted to do a future PSA regarding sharrows, since they're somewhat new to the area. He said the sharrow campaign would run this summer together with a clip promoting people to get out and ride. Discussion followed.

Ruff said another potential item could be Stewart Avenue and the planned reconstruction for 2016. He said the DOT bike/ped coordinator may be able to come and talk about the project.

Ruff said they received recommendations from the consultants doing the MPO Plan. He said we could look at their recommendations for the city of Wausau for things such as road diets. Lenz said that the City adopted the old plan and the committee used the recommendations for Wausau as a guide, and many of the suggestions were implemented. Discussion followed.

The committee discussed the next meeting date and set it for Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 4 p.m.

### **Adjourn**

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Plath motioned to adjourn. Gisselman seconded and the motion carried, 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

**The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee is next scheduled to meet on Monday, June 1, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.**