

City of Lawrence

Lawrence – Douglas County Bicycle Advisory Committee

May 17, 2011 Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jay Bialek, Chris Burger, Lisa Hallberg, Rhonda Houser, Tom Jerome
MEMBERS ABSENT: Gerard Arantowicz, Neil Taylor, Tyler Longpine, Gary Calton
STAFF PRESENT: Todd Girdler, Jessica Mortinger
PUBLIC PRESENT: Dickie Heckler, Steve Harris

1. Call Meeting to Order and Assurance of Quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

2. Approval of the March 22, 2011 Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the March 22nd meeting was moved by Lisa Hallberg seconded by Rhonda Houser and passed unanimously.

3. Action Item Election of a new Chair: Ms. Hallberg explained the BAC's need to elect a new Chair to replace Mr. Longpine who is resigning from his BAC duties due to employment relocation. Mr. Burger nominated Ms. Hallberg to assume the role of Chair, no other nominations were made and the motion was seconded by Ms. Houser and passed unanimously. Lisa's appointment to Chair created a vacancy for the Vice Chair position. Lisa nominated Mr. Burger for the position of vice chair. There were no other nominations and Mr. Jerome seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. Discussion Item: Difficult Intersections Identified

Ms. Hallberg shared the progress the subcommittee had made on three of the issues addressed at the previous meeting. The subcommittee met with City Engineer Shoeb Uddin and identified areas where they felt opportunities to improve bicycle friendliness existed through signage and/or signals. The subcommittee shared the following list of areas to explore opportunities to improve connections for bicyclists:

- West 2nd Street and McDonald (near the Holidome): The intersection of McDonald and W 2nd Street (Holidome corner) is on one of the few routes for crossing town but has a light that is very short (for E-W traffic) and is not triggered by bicycles. They suggested the solution of a longer light and maybe some automatic timing. Mr. Uddin indicated that the angle of the camera triggering the light would be adjusted to pick up bicycles and that the timing would be checked and possibly altered.
- Constant Park intersection with 6th Street and Kentucky/Vermont/Massachusetts Streets (coming south into Downtown): The Constant Park recreation path is a well-used and necessary part of pedestrian and cycling traffic into downtown from the Pinckney and all northern Lawrence locations (this is part of the E-W route that is also part of the McDonald intersection). However, it terminates at 6th Street without any safe or ready access into downtown. The path is not a facility on the Bicycle System Map. The committee suggested the solution of Bicycle route signs or road markings, with eventual expansion of a bike lane, sidewalk access or other facilitated traffic. However no conclusion was achieved at the meeting with Mr. Uddin for this difficult connection. Mr. Burger asked the BAC members if they had any suggestions. The BAC discussed a few

possibilities of moving the crosswalk east, widening sidewalk, altering the curb ramp and using the rail space as a crossing. No one solution was apparent and he asked BAC members to take some time and visit the location on foot or bicycle. The BAC also discussed the value of adding this location as a bicycle and pedestrian count location for future counts.

- **11th Street between Oregon and Haskell Streets** at the north end of the Burroughs Creek Path: The path from Oregon to 11th Street is twisty and terminates on 11th Street in an awkward and low visibility manner. They suggested the solution to route Burroughs Creek Path bicycle traffic onto Oregon Street for safer access to 11th St. using signs. Mr. Heckler pointed out that making Oregon a bike route in this location might be deceiving since a northbound turn on Oregon is blind. He instead suggested the use of Delaware Street. Mr. Girdler indicated the need to check the MUTCD for bike route signage to see if it could be designated as one-way for cyclist flow south on Oregon and north on the path to make these connections. The group agreed to consider this issue further.

BAC members took the opportunity to discuss the need to continue to add difficult intersections onto this list and discuss possible improvements. Subcommittee members were asked to submit to Ms. Mortinger locations and include suggested recommendations to improve the bicycle connections.

- 5. Discussion Item: Bike Month Activities:** Ms. Hallberg discussed the BAC's participation in the Baldwin, Lawrence and Eudora Bicycle Helmet Fairs and presence at the Lawrence Earth Day celebration. BAC's presence went over well at all the events. Ms. Mortinger indicated that information collected from surveys will be used as a start in the process to update the Bicycle Chapter of the MTP and bikeway system map. The input summaries will be explored to determine work issues for the BAC in the future and the information about desired bicycle parking locations will be shared with the Lawrence Central Rotary Club. Ms. Hallberg shared the BAC had gotten Bike Month Proclamations passed in Lawrence, Douglas County and Baldwin City. She also indicated that a Bike to Work Day Breakfast will be held on Friday from 6:30-9:30AM and would be a great event for members to attend.
- 6. Discussion Item: Community Bicycle Ride:** Ms. Mortinger shared the opportunity for BAC members to volunteer in partnership at the Lawrence Central Rotary sponsored Community Bicycle Ride scheduled from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. on July 16th 2011. The event will incorporate a ride, bike safety station, training wheel take off and merchandise tent. Members should let her know if they desire to volunteer at the event. Ms. Hallberg indicated that the Lawrence Mountain Bicycle Club would participate.
- 7. Discussion Item: BAC Logo:** Ms. Hallberg presented a design for a BAC logo; she indicated the logo would be useful for making a public presence on posters, flyers and banners to identify the BAC. The committee discussed the logo and suggested a few minor changes. Mr. Girdler told the BAC that the logo would need the blessing of the City and County Commissions. Ms. Mortinger told the BAC she would work on getting the logo reviewed by city staff.
- 8. Other Business**
Ms. Hallberg announced that the Tour of Lawrence Kickoff happened May 9th. The event is seeking sponsors and volunteers.

9. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

10. Adjournment of Meeting

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Burger, seconded by Ms. Hallberg and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 PM.