



MINUTES  
MANHATTAN BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
City Commission Room, City Hall  
1101 Poyntz Ave. Manhattan, KS 66502  
April 8, 2009

**Members Present:** Brian Hardeman, Ben Champion, Dan Scott, Diane Novak, Rich Markle, Joe Edmunds

**Members Absent:** Dave Colburn, Jeff Hooper, Julie Gibbs

**Staff Present:** Dan Oldehoeft, Bicycle Coordinator; Rob Ott, City Engineer

**Public Attendance:** 0

Hardeman called the meeting to order at 4:50 p.m.

Champion stated that there is still a problem with him receiving the City's In Touch emails and proposed that it could be a problem with Kansas State University's firewall.

A motion was made to approve the March meeting minutes with noted changes. Motion passed.

Champion suggested inserting an agenda line item for additional agenda items following the close of discussion of Old Business and before beginning discussions of New Business. All agreed.

### **Staff Report**

Oldehoeft announced that new bike racks were being installed at the front entrance to Sunset Zoo and that 4 more new bike racks are scheduled to be installed throughout Aggieville in the coming weeks.

Oldehoeft announced the hiring of a GIS Intern for the spring and summer months who will be focused initially on the update of maps to the Bicycle Master Plan and mapping of bicycle routes, facilities, and amenities in the City.

Oldehoeft listed a number of upcoming events including the Bike Manhattan Bike Into the Zoo ride to coincide with Sunset Zoo's "Rock You World" Earth Day celebration. He also said that May is recognized as National Bicycle Safety Month and that the week of May 11-15 is National Bike to Work Week and that Friday, May 15 is National Bike to Work Day.

Oldehoeft relayed information from Julie Gibbs that an additional \$2500 has been made available to the City of Manhattan through a grant from the Riley County-Manhattan Health Department for community improvements. The group briefly discussed possible ways to use the money. Hardeman suggested bike racks for the new downtown redevelopment area and more racks on Poyntz Avenue. Champion suggested curb cuts and ramps to allow bicycle and pedestrian through-traffic along 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in the

area of the Manhattan Town Center Shopping Mall. Novak suggested making covered bike racks available in some locations.

## **New Business**

Hardeman led a discussion designed to further the Committee's familiarization of the Bicycle Master Plan (BMP). He stated that he hadn't expected anyone to have read the entire document but suggested a number of key aspects as highlights. He reviewed aloud the general history of the BMP and made special emphasis on the fact that it was a joint Kansas State University-City of Manhattan project. Champion then briefly discussed the KSU Master Plan and the ad hoc KSU Bicycle Committee. Scott stated that the next KSU Bicycle Committee meeting was April 16<sup>th</sup> and he went on to suggest that the City BAC invite Gerry Snyder to speak at the next meeting. Hardeman agreed and pointed out that Manhattan is a university town.

Novak asked whether a mass transit program would be starting soon and Hardeman answered by saying there was some money available but that the City Commission would need to lend support and subsidize. Champion then made two points: 1. Any mass transit system needs to serve both the campus and the community and, 2. A lot of the plan development hinges on the new University president.

Scott stated that cyclist riding on sidewalks, particularly on campus, is a major problem. Oldehoeft suggested that signage for sidewalks could help relieve this problem.

Hardeman continued the BMP discussion by highlighting 4 major goals of the BMP:

1. Completion of Linear Trail
2. Implementation of the interconnecting routes know as 'spokes'
3. Bicycle parking facilities
4. Policies for future growth

Hardeman pointed out that of the four items needed for the completion of Linear Trail listed on p.25 of the BMP, only one- the Seth Child underpass- had been completed. Ott suggested that Parks Director Curt Loup or Frank Gibbs may be able to provide a copy of the Linear Trail Master Plan. Scott voiced his displeasure with the number and frequency of closures along the trail.

There was a side discussion of the differences between local, collector, and arterial streets initiated by Markle's question of what qualifies as a collector.

Ott announced that it had been approved to stripe Miller Parkway from end to end with bicycle lanes. Novak asked what costs are involved in striping and Ott explained some of the differences between latex, retroreflectivity, and tape.

Hardeman stated that there are many challenges to developing a good route system and pointed out the difficulty of getting onto the N. Manhattan bike lane from Aggieville.

Hardeman suggested a closer look at the list of prioritized projects found on p.92 (alt. p.84) of the BMP. He then suggested we review sections of the BMP individually focusing on different aspects. Champion volunteered to be the liaison from the BAC for the KSU Bicycle Committee and that Mark Tausig and/or Gerry Snyder would be available during the summer. Novak asked whether it would be appropriate to

schedule a meeting between the BAC and the new University president. Champion replied by saying that it would not be appropriate at this time.

Hardeman solicited motion to form sub-committees for the purpose of reviewing the BMP. Champion asked if, instead of sub-committee, we could use the term, 'work group' in order for it to be less formal. Scott asked about the City's open meetings policy and whether a work group within the BAC would be in violation of this. Oldehoeft said he would inquire. Ott suggested a monthly work session occurring two weeks after each BAC meeting.

Novak made a motion that we have a work session once a month. Motion was tabled until Oldehoeft reports on the City's open meeting policy and availability of meeting space.

Hardeman asked that each Committee member take at least one hour to review the BMP before the next meeting- particularly Chapter 3.

Champion stated that he will ask that KSU review and report to us concerning the BMP

### **Old Business**

Hardeman stated that he would bring to the next meeting a draft of the BAC's recommendation for the West Anderson project.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.