



MINUTES

MANHATTAN BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
City Commission Room, City Hall
1101 Poyntz Ave. Manhattan, KS 66502
November 18, 2009

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

Members Absent: Julie Gibbs, Brian Johnson

Staff Present: Dan Oldehoeft, Bicycle Coordinator; Rob Ott, City Engineer; Victoria McKennan Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning Intern

Public Attendance: 2

Hardeman called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Election of Officers

Colburn nominated Brian Hardeman to serve a second term as the BAC Chairperson. Colburn emphasized the value of continuity. Motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

Champion nominated Julie Gibbs to serve as the BAC Vice Chairperson. Edmunds seconded the motion. Champion mentioned the possibility of moving the meeting time. Gibbs was unanimously elected to Vice Chairperson.

Novak moved to accept the October meeting minutes. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Old Business

1. Review Aggieville/Downtown Area Recommendation Memo

Hardeman presented the Aggieville/Downtown Area Recommendation Memo. Novak suggested including a request for permanent funding. Markle agreed that there would be value in continuing to ask. Hardeman said this memo was more specific. Ott said Juliette to 17th Street needs resurfacing. Hardeman said the downtown redevelopment bike parking was not specifically covered in the parking sections. Champion said it should be included. Ott agreed that it should be put in writing. Novak wondered if these issues should go on City Commission agendas or if the BAC should keep sending memos. Hardeman said the BAC should champion for 2-3 projects. Edmunds moved to approve the memo with the changes. Markle seconded and the motion passed.

New Business

1. Staff Reports

Bicycle Coordinator Report

Oldehoeft announced this is his last meeting. Oldehoeft expressed the importance of the BAC to continue and said he feels a transformation will be seen within the next year. Oldehoeft said he left Ott with a map locating desired placement for 25 Share the Road (STR) signs. Oldehoeft emphasized using the signs to warn motorists as they come into town from Tuttle Creek Boulevard as well as buffer areas around Aggieville and along N. Manhattan Ave. Oldehoeft said that even when there is a striped lane, STR signs are needed to remind cyclists and motorists to share the road. Oldehoeft suggested removing the small green bike route signs on Denison Ave. and replacing them with STR signs because they are too ambiguous and confusing. Oldehoeft said work orders for bike racks are being created. Oldehoeft said information was left with McKennan. Ott announced that Bicycle Coordination will remain under his umbrella of Engineering. McKennan will assume Bicycle Coordinator responsibilities for the short-term. Ott expressed hopes for a position in the 2011 budget for someone with a background in planning.

City Engineer Report

Ott said by Dec. 4 the field review will be done with Bill Dickenson, Traffic Supervisor. Ott explained the crossing was removed from the project at Union Pacific Railroad. Ott explained that the City would pick up the crossing and look at connecting the trail up to Levy drive. Hardeman mentioned that bikers from Wamego to Manhattan should have an 8ft wide paved shoulder. Ott said he would visit with Dale Haudeshell to discuss. Ott said there was no funding for W. Anderson, but that he had a meeting on Friday with DG associates to discuss improvements. Ott said development for 4th St PUD approved bicycle parking and parking garage. Ott said a sidewalk was proposed on Allison road. Novak mentioned this would be good for people staying at the motel.

2. Review Transportation Enhancement Grant Application

Ott said there were 4 projects applying for the December 1st deadline. The first project is a ten foot (10') wide trail from the Union Pacific Depot to 3rd & Leavenworth trail. The second project is a segment of Linear Trail from Casement to Tuttle Creek Boulevard. Ott said this would be done in 2 phases. Novak asked if there was a master plan for parks as park connections would enhance the grant application. Hardeman said that Linear Trail is always a high priority. Novak mentioned that by serving schools, Linear Trail provides a win-win situation. Ott said the 3rd project is construction of Military Trail from Scenic drive to Miller Parkway. Ott asked for comments or discussion about which phase of Linear Trail is the highest priority. Oldehoeft said a connection from Susan B. Anthony middle school to Tuttle Creek Boulevard seems like a priority. Hardeman said the east side of Casement would be necessary, and possibly an incentive for more connectivity. Oldehoeft mentioned Todd Loven would be interested in helping connect Outlet Park to the City's trail system. Hardeman wondered what the long-term concept was for Linear Trail. Ott said K-Dot will not fund limestone trails. Hardeman said that if the BAC chose a project as a committee, a letter of recommendation could be written. Champion made a motion to vote on Linear Trail as the top priority. Motion passed unanimously. Ott said application decisions would be known most likely in April/May. Hardeman mentioned there was discussion at the Manhattan Mercury regarding Safe Routes to School (SRTS). Colburn suggested a summit for all parties interested in SRTS.

3. Review Community Development Block Grant Funding Opportunity

Hardeman said that as of July 2010, Manhattan will be eligible for CDBG funds. Hardeman showed a map which located eligible districts. Transportation and sidewalk repairs are potential projects for year one. The BAC should also give input for infrastructure improvements. Fixing stormwater issues may help pedestrians and cyclists even more. Ott said Karen Davis asked the City to look at sidewalk gaps along K-18. Hardeman mentioned that improvements can be made outside the boundaries of eligible districts as long as they serve residents of those districts.

4. Work Session: Potential capital projects and funding sources

Oldehoeft said the most important issue was securing a Bicycle Coordinator. Champion said the BAC should recommend a full-time position. Hardeman mentioned that the issue depends on budget. Oldehoeft expressed the importance of a dedicated position with sole responsibilities of Bicycle Coordinator. Champion agreed that the position should be dedicated and permanent. Hardeman supported the Bicycle Coordinator position as the highest priority. Oldehoeft asked if it would be valuable to invite Kurt Loup to the next BAC meeting. Edmunds asked about the budget. Champion suggested that it was the responsibility of the BAC to come up with a list of requests and let administration and City staff figure out funding. Ott suggested giving list to the Bicycle Coordinator. Edmunds suggested starting by coming up with a list of projects. The following requests were briefly discussed:

- Marlatt Connection (Linear Trail)
- 4th Street railroad crossing to connect with Linear Trail
- More bike racks/bike parking
- Signage- maps, sign boards, signs along Linear Trail
- Funds for Bike promotion/education/encouragement
 - Bike to work week
 - Ask for \$5000 (posters, advertisements)
- Multi-use sidewalk on casement
- Linear Trail to Annenberg Park connection
- Improvements to Anderson (Ott recommended a traffic study in the spring)
- Ft. Riley Boulevard for sidewalks

Next Month:

Narrow requests for capital projects

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.