



MINUTES
MANHATTAN BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Commission Room, City Hall
1101 Poyntz Ave, Manhattan, KS 66502
July 27, 2011

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

Members Absent: Joe Wright, Dave Colburn, Susanne Kufahl, Michael Wesch

Staff Present: Peter Clark, Design Engineer; Joey Lightner, Bicycle Intern

Public Attendance: 1

B. Hardeman called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m. on June 22, 2011

1. Approve minutes from April 2011 and May 2011.
 - a. D. Novak moved to approve the April 2011 and May 2011 minutes with corrections. The motion was seconded by J. Edmunds. The motion passed 5-0.
2. Staff Reports
 - a. J. Lightner stated that the City will host an open house to receive public comment of the 5-Year Strategic Plan for Bicycling on July 13, 2011 from 12pm – 6pm at City Hall. All local residents living or owning property on the designated bike routes were sent a mailer inviting them to attend.
 - b. J. Lightner reported on the State of Kansas' new legislation regarding bicycling. Beginning July 1, 2011, all motorists are required to pass a bicyclist with at least three-feet and bicyclists and motorcyclists are allow to travel through a red light after wait a reasonable amount of time for the light to recognize the rider. To bring awareness to this, the City is hosting a progressive dinner and ride on July 1, 2011. The event will begin at City Hall by listening to Mayor Sherow speak about the new legislation. From there, participants will bike to local restaurants and back to City Hall.
 - c. J. Lightner informed the Committee about KSU Week of Welcome but differed to B. Champion for the details. B. Champion stated that there will be two events. The first being a campus bike tour led by KSU Recreation staff to familiarize students with campus. This will be on Tuesday, August 23, 2011 at 7:00pm. The second event will be a ride to local destinations, such as restaurants, Linear Trail, etc. This ride will be Friday, August 26, 2011 at 6:30pm and is sponsored by the KSU Cycling Team, Flint Hills Area Bike Club and Big Poppi Bicycle Company. The ride will end on campus in conjugation with a Take Charge Challenge event.

- d. P. Clark reported that there will be improvements made to the North Manhattan & Bluemont intersection. A consultant is being contracted for the project.
 - e. P. Clark also reported on the Mall entrance at K-18 and HWY 24. Because of capacity issues, the intersection is being renovated. P. Clark asked for feedback on how this intersection can be more bicycle and pedestrian-friendly. D. Novak asked if the old railroad bed can be used for a multi-use path. P. Clark reported that a five-foot sidewalk will be constructed linking Leavenworth to the existing sidewalk on Ft Riley Blvd. P. Clark asked for feedback on how to get pedestrians and bicyclists to the Aldi and hotel side of the intersection. D. Novak suggested a bike/ped eye at the intersection. B. Hardeman reported issues going into the mall from HWY 24. P. Clark reported that the intersection will be change to video detection instead of induction loops improving bike accessibility. He reported that a refuge island will be constructed in the median of the street. B. Hardeman asked about connecting the intersection to Linear Trail. J. Edmunds suggested a pedestrian overpass. P. Clark stated that a crossing is available near the waste-water treatment facility but a possible solution would be a pedestrian overpass at the HWY 177 Bridge. This facility would be costly. P. Clark asked again about pedestrian access near the intersection. B. Hardeman suggested that a refuge island is an important feature. The Committee discussed the length of timing for pedestrian crossing and P. Clark stated that the City follows national standards for timing but a particular intersection could be changed, if necessary.
 - f. B. Champion suggested that with the new surfacing on Poyntz that it be restriped to provide a bike-friendly street. B. Hardeman referenced the low traffic volume as a reason why the street should be restriped. P. Clark stated that the traffic volumes are low on Poyntz and that the project was done with little warning to City staff. He stated that if the street was going to be restriped it would have to go through public comment and be discussed with other City staff members. B. Champion suggested that a letter be drafted to the City Commission stating that this was a missed opportunity to provide bike access to City Park. B. Hardeman suggested addressing the memo to the City Commission but carbon copying the Director of Public Works. P. Clark apologized to the Committee on behalf of City staff. B. Hardeman suggested that the memo be ready for the next meeting for a vote.
3. Discuss Parks and Recreation Board Meeting
- a. D. Novak stated that the Parks and Recreation Board were receptive to working with the Bicycle Advisory Committee. J. Lightner reported that a new trails group that was started. This group is planning on renovating the trail behind the High School. P. Clark reported that he and J. Lightner met with Curt Loupe, Director of Parks and Recreation to follow-up on discussion for City Park. He stated that Parks and Recreation would like to close part of City Park off to through traffic and make North Manhattan a bike boulevard. With that, priority would be given to North Manhattan at North Manhattan and Freemont to improve pedestrian and bike safety and reduce traffic incidents at the intersection. Other City Park improvements include bike paths to connect North and South Manhattan and Humbolt through the park. B. Hardeman asked staff to consider other pedestrian access to the park. P. Clark stated that current plans address concerns. B. Hardeman suggested adding bike racks to City Pool. P. Clark reported that Parks and Recreation.

4. Discuss Planning Board Meeting
 - a. J. Lightner reported on the work session with the Urban Area Planning Board. He stated that the board is very receptive to current goals and infrastructure changes but gave little feedback on policy changes to incorporate into the comprehensive plan. P. Clark reported that the Board was more interested in renovating current infrastructure than giving guidance to future policy changes. B. Hardeman suggested that the Bicycle Advisory Committee be more focused on pedestrian. P. Clark asked if the Committee should eventually be changed to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee. B. Champion suggested it would change the make up of the Committee. P. Clark stated that it a representative from the handicap sector would need to be recruited.
5. Update "Bike Everywhere" Map
 - a. B. Hardeman suggested that the discussion on the Bike Everywhere map be postponed until M. Wesch returns and can ask for feedback. B. Champion reported that he submitted a suggestion on bikemanhattan.info. B. Hardeman suggested that the Committee email any feedback to M. Wesch.
6. Focus Group for Bike Master Plan
 - a. J. Lightner asked for feedback on the formation of a revised or new bike master plan. B. Hardeman reported that no one knows the status of the current bike master plan. P. Clark reported that it is in a grey area of adoption. He stated that whatever is done needs be done right. B. Champion suggested that the committee should use policy development as part of the master plan as a tool to ensure progress is made on what needs to be accomplished. P. Clark stated that evidence that the current master plan is not working is the missed opportunity of restriping Poyntz. B. Champion suggested that bike accessibility needs to be incorporated into checklists for renovating or building new infrastructure. B. Champion volunteered to draft a letter from the committee reflecting the connection between the Poyntz restriping project and the policy and checklists points. J. Lightner to follow up on the status of the 1998 Bicycle Master Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 5:43 pm

Next meeting: July 27, 2011