

Minutes

Friday, 16 October 2020

8:15 a.m.

Virtual meeting location

1. MEETING OPENING

1.1. Sevin called the meeting to order at 8:17 a.m.

1.2. Roll Call

Present: Nancy Baker, Annie Cook, Joseph Edmunds, Carol Sevin, Brian Hardeman, David Colburn, Ed Kalas

Absent: Kevin Fateley, Chris Spooner, Seth Scobee

Staff: Brian Johnson, City Engineer; Alfonso Leyva, Parks Planner; John Adam, Senior Planner; Tyler Tripp, Bike/Ped Coordinator; Ben Chmiel, Planner III

Public: 1

1.3. **Minutes of 9/18/2020 meeting.** Colburn moved to approve the minutes; Kalas seconded. Motion passed 7–0–0.

1.4. **Public Comments:** None.

2. REPORTS & UPDATES

2.1. **Public Works:** The City has recently received a grant from KDOT to update the current Safe Routes to School Plan.

Design of Hayes Trail has been started. Discussions with property owners about easements will begin shortly.

Easements are being purchased along Linear Park Trail and there will be substantial shutdowns of portions of the trail in 2021 and 2022 as the levee and trail are being updated.

The estimate for the cycle track on North Manhattan Avenue came in at approximately \$2.4 million. Funding solutions will need to be identified in order to pay for this project.

The HAWK signals on College Avenue at Jardine Trail and at Via Christi are now operational.

North Manhattan Avenue is reopening on the day of this meeting. The trail on the west side of the road is open and there are some new sidewalks on the east

side.

- 2.2. **Parks & Recreation:** Parks and Recreation staff met with the Grant Administrator from the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWP) on Thursday, October 15 to discuss the Recreation Trail Program. A grant application was submitted about a month prior for improved connections on Linear Park Trail. It is expected that the City will learn whether the grant application was accepted later in the winter/the beginning of next year.

The Clarenburg Trail improvements on the east side of City Park have been put on hold until Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding gets approved for the project.

- 2.3. **Community Development:** The bike rack for the post office has been delivered and will be installed when someone from the Public Works Department has time to install it.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- 3.1. **Goals: Prioritization and Accomplishment:** This item entailed further discussion about the [goals](#) and what actionable steps could be taken to achieve those goals. Sevin presented the idea that a goal should be discussed at every BPAC meeting. There was general support of this while it is presently difficult to form a subcommittee to discuss the goals. Hardeman presented that this would be a good way to warm up to the goals and create discussion that can lead into a subcommittee in the future. Tremblay presented a desire to move forward with updating/upgrading existing bicycle boulevards and stated that he could send out a packet and that this could be further discussed in the following month.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- 4.1. **Adult Bike Education:** Dominique Saunders, a volunteer member of Bike Walk MHK, presented on the adult bicycle education program that had been developed by her and other interested members of Bike Walk MHK and the community alongside the Manhattan Parks and Recreation Department. The program has been delayed as a result of COVID-19 but plans are still to start this program when it becomes safe to do so. It will most likely be taught in the spring of each year. Saunders identified that this program aligned with BPAC's 2020–2021 Goals. Saunders presented the [course outline](#) and [general information](#) about the course. The course includes classroom and riding components. Colburn suggested that putting flyers in with the bike maps would be a good way to distribute information about the course. Colburn also suggested that a group the course could consider is people riding electric bikes. Finally, Colburn provided the idea of seeding the class with more involved community members, such as those in Bike Walk MHK, who are slightly more experienced with cycling to make class sizes larger so people are more invested in taking the course. The idea of for-credit courses was also presented as a potential method for bridging to the college population.

- 4.2. **Use of LINK Funds:** Tremblay inquired about where the funds that the City and Kansas State University are receiving from LINK Scooters are going and what they will be used for, as well as to see if there is a way BPAC could be updated on the amount that is being received. Johnson found that these funds are going to the City/University Fund and that the amount going to the fund is \$0.25 per ride. An attempt will be made to get Jared Wasinger to discuss the specifics this income source further at the next meeting.
- 4.3. **Letter of Support for TA Grant Application:** Adam requested a letter of support from BPAC for a Transportation Alternatives (TA) Grant request to update the Safe Routes to School Plan. Sevin created a letter of recommendation. Hardeman moved to approve the recommendation; Baker seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

5. ADJOURNMENT

- 5.1. Updates and comments from members
Adam inquired whether members wanted to begin meeting in person again or would like to continue meeting virtually. General consensus was that meetings should continue to be online. The potential of altering BPAC's bylaws to accommodate for virtual meetings was presented by Hardeman. There was also potential interest in revisiting potential schedule changes.
- 5.2. Meeting adjourned at 9:31 a.m.