



CITY OF URBANA BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, March 19, 2024
TIME: 7:00 PM
PLACE: 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

MINUTES

Members Present: Annie Adams, Susan Jones, Tommy Griscom, Qiushi Huang, Audrey Ishii, Daniel Saphiere, Nancy Westcott

Others Present: Marcus Ricci (Community Development)

Members Absent: Bruce Michelson, Keenan Portis, Sarthak Prasad, John Zeman

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

Audrey Ishii called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Roll was taken. A Quorum of Members was present.

B. Changes to the Agenda

none

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

none

D. Public Input and Commissioner Communications

Daniel Saphiere mentioned that the Safe Routes to School Day is on May 8th, 2024.

E. Unfinished Business

1. 2024 Meeting Calendar – John Zeman

In John's absence, Audrey went over the meeting calendar.

Daniel Saphiere motioned to approve the 2024 meeting calendar, Susan Jones seconded. Motion approved with a unanimous voice vote.

2. Election of Acting Vice Chair – Audrey Ishii

Audrey asked for nominations or volunteers for the vacant acting Vice Chair position. Daniel Saphiere nominated himself.

Nancy Westcott motioned to approve Daniel Saphiere as acting Vice Chair of BPAC, Susan Jones seconded. Motion approved with a unanimous voice vote.

3. Residential Street Speed Limits – Audrey Ishii

Audrey stated that pedestrian deaths are on the rise. She presented information that she compiled from a League of American Bicyclists' webinar and from Berry Dunn's Public Safety Services Operational Review & Assessment that the City of Urbana had recently released. A few key points from the presentation were:

- a. reframing road design to include pedestrians
- b. states have the choice of what speed limits should be
- c. there are web-based tools to help set appropriate speed limits

Audrey also mentioned that towns around Urbana that have lowered their speed limits include Savoy, St. Joseph, Tolono, & Mahomet.

F. Reports of City Officials and Staff and Reports of Committees

With John Zeman's absence, there were none.

G. New Business

1. Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Discussion – Audrey Ishii

Last year, due to a miscommunication, there was not an application done for the planning portion of the SS4A grant. Audrey asked if the City of Urbana should apply this year. The deadline for applications is August 29th, 2024.

Some possibilities for the SS4A grant are an appendix for the RPC Urban Safety Plan and demonstration projects.

Two actions were brought up regarding the discussions on the SS4A grant and speed limits:

- a. Should BPAC recommend that the City of Urbana make an application for a SS4A Supplemental Planning and Demonstration grant?
- b. Should BPAC recommend that the City of Urbana should lower the residential speed limits to 25 mph?

It was discussed & determined that they should try to apply for the SS4A grant. Annie, Tommy, & Audrey agreed to work on key points to be brought to the City for the application process.

H. Announcements

Regarding the Sage Trail, Anne Adams asked BPAC for a resolution of support and to present it to City Council. Annie will be presenting it to other commissions. This needs to be put on a future agenda for action.

Daniel Saphiere said that on April 1st, 2024, RPC is holding a plan commissioner training to learn how to be a more effective commissioner and/or board member.

I. Future Topics

1. Sage Trail – Annie Adams
2. SS4A Grant resolution
3. Speed Limit Ordinance resolution

J. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.