



CITY OF URBANA BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, April 16, 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, Bruce Michelson, Keenan Portis, Sarthak Prasad, Nancy Westcott, John Zeman

Others Present: Riley Jones (Public Works Engineering)

Members Absent: Daniel Saphiere

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

Audrey Ishii called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll was taken. A Quorum of Members was present.

B. Changes to the Agenda

none

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

1. November 21, 2023 Minutes
2. February 20, 2024 Minutes
3. March 19, 2024 Minutes

Susan Jones motioned to approve all three meetings's minutes together, Nancy Westcott seconded. Motion approved with a unanimous voice vote.

D. Public Input and Commissioner Communications

Nancy Westcott mentioned that PACE CIL has moved to Lincoln Square Mall. With this move, there is a larger population of pedestrians with visual impairments and using wheelchairs. The crosswalks in that area need to be repainted.

Annie Adams suggested that BPAC choose a new crosswalk every year that they want put in, or to enhance an existing crosswalk.

E. Unfinished Business

1. Marked Walking Trail through Downtown Urbana (Sage Trail) – Annie Adams

Annie has presented the Sage Trail to the Historical Preservation Commission. They were interested in the idea & gave their feedback on it.

Annie has added a QR code to the map & has added more historical markers to the map. Annie would like to reach out to the Arts Commission & Economic Development next.

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

Audrey went over two parts of the SS4A grant: Planning & Demonstration Grants which are 30% of the grant money awarded and Implementation Grants which are 70% of the grant money awarded. The deadline for Demonstration Grant applications is August 29, 2024. There was discussion about the feasibility of applying for the SS4A Grant. John Zeman provided some preliminary information about the difficulty of implementing the SS4A Demonstration Grant.

Bruce Michelson motioned to re-forward the SS4A Grant resolution of last year to City Council stating that BPAC still supports it, Susan Jones seconded. Motion approved with a unanimous voice vote.

3. Residential Street Speed Limits – Audrey Ishii

Audrey said that the State of Illinois currently has a bill asking for the default speed limit be 20 mph in residential areas. This bill was introduced in February 2023. The group Assignments had a meeting today (4/16), but she doesn't know the outcome of that meeting. Audrey suggested that BPAC encourages City Council to send a letter of support for the bill that would reduce the default speed limit to 20 mph. This could be discussed at a future BPAC meeting depending on where the State of Illinois bill goes.

No action was taken on the Speed Limit resolution.

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

- a. John said a draft of the CIP went to City Council at the beginning of April. The CIP will go back to council on May 6th to be adopted.
- b. There will be a public meeting on April 23rd for input on the Lincoln Avenue corridor study.
- c. IDOT had a meeting regarding a shared-use path on the north side of University Avenue from Maple Street to Ambucs Park. Construction is planned for FY27.
- d. John has a design consultant for the ITEP project of Florida Avenue and Bakers Lane.

G. New Business

none

H. Announcements

- a. Susan mentioned that the Prairie Cycle Club season with weekly rides starts on Saturday, April 20th.
- b. John introduced Riley Jones who is a Civil Engineer that joined the City in September 2023. John also announced that a second Assistant City Engineer will be hired.
- c. Annie said that the Christie Clinic Illinois Race weekend will be April 25th – 27th and they are looking for volunteers.
- d. Tommy announced that CU Urbanism is starting a book club.
- e. Qiushi mentioned that MTD is having a public meeting in May which will be about the upcoming schoolyear & their services.
- f. Nancy mentioned that PACE will have 2 teams walking in the 5K marathon.

I. Future Topics

1. Bruce would like to see about getting a representative from the Fire Department to see if anything can be done about safety issue awareness with E-Bikes & share this information with the public.

J. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.