



# MINUTES | December 1, 2010

6:00 pm • Leawood City Hall • 4800 Town Center Drive • Main Conference Room

**Members Present:** Rod Crawford, Alicia Jennings, Jill Paton  
**Staff Present:** Brian Anderson, Marica Putman  
**Members Absent:** Pete Stover, Steve Hassler  
**Guest:** William Jennings; Melissa DeBoer, Planner; Joe Rexwinkle, Planner II

## MEMBERS

Rod Crawford, Chair  
 Pete Stover, Vice Chair  
 Steve Hassler  
 Alicia Jennings  
 Jill Paton

The BFC meeting came to order at 6:05 pm.

### Call to order

- Alicia Jennings made a motion to approve October 6, 2010 minutes.
- Jill Paton seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chris Claxton,  
 Director of Parks  
 & Recreation

Brian Anderson,  
 Parks Superintendent

### Old Business

#### Complete Streets Policy Update – Brian Anderson, Joe Rexwinkle, Melissa DeBoer

- Planners, Melissa DeBoer and Joe Rexwinkle, presented an educational complete streets proposal to the Planning Commission during a recent work session. The presentation expanded on complete street concepts, developmental styles, and more. The planners answered questions, received guidance and policy suggestions from the Planning Commission.
- Melissa DeBoer, Joe Rexwinkle, Brian Anderson will meet with the Public Works Department staff to discuss the policy, ordinances, new development, redevelopment, and route feasibility prior to presenting this to the Planning Commission. They are hoping that this can be done in one more work session in which they can take it to the Planning Commission for a final vote prior to formally recommending it for approval to the City Council. Tentative date is mid-spring.
- Joe Rexwinkle emphasized that he and Melissa DeBoer cannot change Public Works policies but their job is to change what they can in the Leawood Development Ordinance and work with the engineers and Brian Anderson to make sure that whatever we are going after as far as a goal is not conflicting with something that is already in our ordinance. For instance, to encourage businesses to designate themselves as Bicycle Friendly Businesses, they might provide a bike rack at their businesses. They must work together to determine that the placement of the bike rack does not conflict with the city's codes and regulations so that a business is not cited and fined.
- A memo detailing the work session was given to BFC members.
- Alicia Jennings asked who determines what streets are considered for modification. Joe Rexwinkle answered that they are creating a map that would be a part of the city's comprehensive plan that would help guide the capital improvement program for the city. That's the program that determines funding for certain features like streets, sidewalks, elements and help the commissioners when they are working on individual developments. The map can be shown as what the city adopted and it can say that it's supposed to have this feature, this element at this location and that is something to back up what the planning commission and council makes. The map will be really important. Ultimately the decision makers are the Planning Commission and the City Council.
- Melissa DeBoer passed out maps for members to mark up and determine what they deem will be a good bike lane or a shared use route would be. The map should be returned by the first of the year.
- Our mapping data is shared with all of Johnson County and use that data to see cities that border Leawood, like Overland Park and Prairie Village, where they designate

Marica Putman,  
 Adm. Graphics Tech

certain routes. The terminology may differ but the elements are familiar to the Planning Commission. A complete street is accessible to everyone not just cars, but to walkers, cyclists, the handicapped, buses, and mass transit. The goal is to ensure that all those users are accommodated on any given street (all the physical elements are in place to accommodate the users).

- Members discussed the challenges and issues of terminology and time working with other cities to implement complete streets elements and features, and education. The group discussed various streets that are problematic and possible solutions.

## **New Business**

### **✚ Bike Friendly Businesses – Brian Anderson**

- MARC asked Brian Anderson to speak about Complete Streets Policy at their pedestrian seminar. He met Elizabeth Bejan, of Family Bicycles and Revolve. She spoke at the seminar about Bicycle Friendly Businesses, a new program.
- The City of Shawnee applied for the designation of a Bike Friendly Business. They did not receive this recognition. They did receive an Honorable Mention.
- He would like for the City of Leawood (meaning all facilities) to apply for this recognition as we move forward and work on these programs.
- Providing employee errand bikes. Instead of hopping into a city vehicle, they can use the city bikes to check out trails, for fitness, short errands, etc. He spoke with the Sustainability Advisory Board to see if they would be interested in donating these bikes and received an estimate from Elite Cycling (\$350-\$400 per bike). The Human Resources Department has wellness dollars and they are for it. The bike idea could be promoted to various businesses and the Chamber of Commerce.
- Chair Crawford suggested providing the Chamber of Commerce with a presentation.
- Every building we have has employee showering facilities.
- In 2009, the federal government passed a Commuter Tax Benefit for Bicycles, an incentive program. A company called Meredith provides this for their employees. Employees can sign up and receive \$20 a month if one commits to riding a bike 3 days to work (\$240 a year, pre tax dollars) to help offset the cost of cycling, maintenance, or repair.
- Discussed providing bike maintenance stations and bike racks in our trails and parks. Joe Rexwinkle suggested that we involve the Arts Council to create competitive atmosphere between businesses in having the best functional, coolest artistic bicycle racks. Other incentives include getting a ride home when it's late if they rode the bikes to work.
- Jill Patton makes the motion for Brian Anderson to pursue the application for the Bicycle Friendly Business program. Alicia Jennings seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

### **✚ Trail Segment at 123<sup>rd</sup> and Mission (erosion) Update – Brian Anderson**

- The study has been approved by the City Council.
- Review the sites, changes to the intersection at 119<sup>th</sup> and Mission. They are widening it with a 10 foot wide bike trail. The study is done, surveys, drawings are almost completed. They are due to be done within 6 weeks with a notice to proceed within 2 weeks. They will be coming back with a finished recommendation soon.
- Members discussed the water flow, erosion of the area in question.

### **✚ General Discussions – Group**

- Discussed various streets that need improvements, wasted spaces, and new businesses in Leawood. Discussed marking up the map and symbols.

### **✚ Adjourn**

- Meeting adjourns at 7:12 pm. Next meeting is February 2, 2011.