MINUTES | April 11, 2012
6:00 pm • Leawood City Hall • 4800 Town Center Drive • Main Conference Room

Members Present: Alicia Jennings, Steve Hassler, Brian Neilson
Staff Present: Brian Anderson, Joe Peeples, Marica Putman
Members Absent:
Guests: Bill Blessing, Bob Crowell

The BFC meeting came to order at 6:15 pm.

Call to order

Agenda
• Chair Jennings added the Prairie Village Meeting about Moving the Bike Trail from Roe to Nall.
• Steve Hassler made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Brian Neilson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve November 2nd, 2011 Minutes
• Brian Neilson made a motion to approve November 2nd, 2011 minutes. Steve Hassler seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Introducing BFC Nominees
• Bill Blessing and Bob Crowell are introduced to the committee members.
• Nominees give a brief bio of their interest to the community and bicycling.
• The BFC is an advisory board to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. We would like to increase our visibility and participation.
• A draft of the BFC By-laws is passed out and members discuss the contents of it. One suggestion for change is the committee shall be composed of at least 5 citizen members for flexibility.
• Officer Joe Peeples announced that Officer Erik Butler is our second bicycle officer.
• Bill Blessing suggested that members receive a copy of the feedback after applying for the Bicycle Friendly Community application for reviewing purposes. Brian Anderson will email a copy of the latest application and feedback.
• Leawood City Hall received an Honorable Mention as a Bicycle Friendly Business. A feedback report has not been received yet. In Missouri, these businesses have received Bicycle Friendly Business designation: Revolve, 360 Architecture, and MARC. In Kansas: Sprint received Honorable Mention.

New Business

Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan Route Map
• The staff finished reviewing the street routes discussed in November’s meeting for the map. They will meet, discuss options, and then will bring it to the committee’s attention for reviewing prior to sending to the Planning Commission. Now is the time to receive citizen input. Public Works streets division is rebuilding failed curbs in the next few years. With this complete streets resolution, it’s critical that this map be done and approved by council and that staff design the correct facility for it (signage, bike lanes, walking/biking connections). As these streets come up to be rebuilt, repaired or be improved through the Capital Improvement Program, that’s when they will start implementing these bike improvements to the streets. Committee members discuss various routes and examples of these improvements. We are accommodating the commuter, elite rider, and the child.
• We have trails in Leawood City Park. Bike lanes are on the side of the street and they are marked. Route is share the road and can be unmarked. Leawood prefers them to be marked. And you can have a wide paved shoulder too. **Bill Blessing** suggested that once a wide shoulder is designated as a bike lane or route it should be included on the street sweeping plan. Otherwise one gets flat tires or rocks and the lane becomes unusable. **Brian Anderson** shares that street sweeping information is requested on the Bike Friendly Community application too. We do really well in that regard.

• On Mission Road, the controversy of continuing the lane or to break it up, **Bob Crowell** mentions that it is nice to have these breaks. It gives riders a chance to pull over safely and allow cars to pass. Some cyclists are not aware that they holding back drivers who are increasingly become impatient and a potentially dangerous situation for riders. Members discuss the need to educate the riders and drivers their responsibilities.

• Part of the complete streets resolution is that we give the Planning Commission an update on what’s been accomplished and where we are going. A work session with the Planning Commission will scheduled after June.

**Spoke ‘n Art**

• Partnered with the Leawood Arts Council, this is a ride for cyclists with stops to view public art sculptures and learn the history of that piece from an arts liaison.

• 20 participants last year and received much feedback. It was 12 miles and 10 sculptures. This year’s ride is incorporating more residential riding, 16 miles, and several sculptures including those that were missed from last year. It will be on June 2nd, 8:30 am at Leawood City Park with lunch provided at the end of the event. **Brian Anderson** describes the art sculptures and the ride route. The map was created using Map My Ride and members made suggestions for improving the map. It starts and ends in the City Park and there’s no need for shuttle. The possibility of a shorter ride too. We would like a sag wagon. Members discussed various ride events and formats. Advertising methods were discussed (i.e. KC Metro Bike Club).

• We would like to install Share the Road signage where there is a lot of cycle traffic until we can get some bike lanes and routes. Another thought would be to provide some way finding signage on the trails too. This would provide directions to various shops/stores or general directions with time info or points of interests sponsored by those shops/stores. Another suggestion is for the signage to have a location marker for emergency purposes.

• Members continue to discuss areas and connections where they would like to see a bike lane or route. **Chair Jennings** attended the Prairie Village’s bicycle meeting. They propose to move the proposed 8 foot wide bike path (a multipurpose path from Corinth to Franklin Park) on Roe and move it to Nall. Nall is twice as busy; traffic is faster, cut into people’s yards, etc. Roe does not connect with anything. Mission has a bike path to Nall. The idea is to connect to Mission. A broader connection plan is needed to unite the trails between the metro cities.

**Bicycle Week Promotion**

• Bike week is May 12th-20th and will be on the City Council agenda. The Mayor will proclaim this week as Bike Week in Leawood. There are more official KC Bike Week events from various cities listed on Marc’s website. Last year’s bike rodeo for adults was rained out. We had partnered with

• **Officer Joe Peeples** informs everyone that the Police Department is having 3 Bike Rodeos for kids on May 19th. It will be on the south side of Town Center Plaza just to the west of Pottery Barn. Whole Foods has donated vitamin water, water, and cereal bars. Ariel, Bike America, and Bike Source are individually participating in each of the rodeos. Information was sent out to the schools and has not had a huge response back. They are looking at other media sources. He is currently working on a flier and which can be on a recreation email blast. **Officer Joe Peeples** describes the bike rodeo’s action plan. There is also a similar event at Brookwood on May 18th. Suggestions include having a small course for adults while children are attending the rodeo.
• Bike/Walks to School at Cure of Ars, Cure, and Brookwood.
• Chair Jennings shares the Overland Park’s Recycle Extravaganza flyer with member. She emphasizes that we need bikes donated and Resolve will pick them up. Elizabeth Bejan of Resolve is a certified League Instructor and has had adult riding classes for Leawood. Her leadership class is April 27th, 28th, and 29th. Road skills, agility drills, and course. If interested call Elizabeth Bejan at 816.835.3310 or revolvekc.org.

Misc Topics
• Decide a Chair and Vice-Chair at the next meeting.
• Maybe meet the 1st Wednesday of May to discuss Spoke ‘n Art. An email will be sent out if we need to meet in May. There’s a quick discussion about registering for the event and extending the registration date. For additional assistance contact Officer Kirt Yoder for road/traffic concerns.

Adjourn
• Meeting adjourns at 7:30 pm. The Next meeting is June 4, 2012.
• Brian Neilson makes a motion for the meeting to be adjourned. Steve Hassler seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.