



MINUTES | August 1, 2012

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

Members Present: Alicia Jennings, Bill Blessing, Bob Crowell, Steve Hassler, Brian Neilson

Staff Present: Brian Anderson, Erik Butler, David Ley, Marica Putman

Members Absent: Brian Luce

Guests: None

The BFC meeting came to order at 6:11 pm.

Call to order

✚ Agenda

- Agenda additions:
 - Elect Chairperson
 - Bicycle Club Liaisons
 - Volunteers to find educational materials
 - Back to School Nights
- Bob Crowell made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Steve Hassler seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

✚ Approve April 11, 2012 Minutes

- Brian Neilson made a motion to approve June 6, 2012 minutes. Steve Hassler seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

✚ Complete Streets Implementation Meeting Recap

- Representatives from the Bicycle Committee were Brian Anderson, Alicia Jennings, Brian Neilson, and Officer Erik Butler. The staff presented their map for street improvements or enhancements that make sense for creating a biking and walking transportation system. The focus group asked how the improvements would be implemented. Staff indicated that for public streets, the improvements would be added as planned maintenance or repair work is done or as a new area is built. For private/commercial parking lots and sidewalks, requirements would be made when new or redevelopment plans are sent to the city for review. A discussion of the new Justice Center with nice wide sidewalks and trails just stopping at the property line with no timetable for these accommodations to be added along the commercial retail property was a concern. The group expressed the busy retail business of Town Center Drive/119th Street district should be a priority for the Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan.

- From this meeting a recommendation that funding to hire a consultant to do a bicycle and pedestrian master plan be added for consideration in the 2013 budget. This recommendation was approved. The budget is \$60,000.00. Brian Anderson shared some research he had done of an example of a good bikeway master plan designed for Topeka, Kansas. He spoke with the park planner of Topeka to learn how they selected their consultant. While several consultants had experience in this area, the one they selected included a team leader who was an active bicycle commuter and actually

MEMBERS

- Alicia Jennings, Chair
- Bill Blessing
- Bob Crowell
- Steve Hassler
- Brian Luce
- Brian Neilson
- Chris Claxton,
Director of
Parks & Recreation
- Brian Anderson,
Parks Superintendent
- Marica Putman,
Adm. Graphics Tech
- David Ley, City Engineer
Public Works
- Erik Butler, Police Officer
Police
- Joe Peeples, Police Officer
Police
- Joe Rexwinkle, Sr. Planner
Planning & Development

ACTION ITEMS

- ✓ Brian Anderson will email a link to the Topeka plan
- ✓ Brian Anderson will check on street counters from MARC.
- ✓ Alicia Jennings will bring the video of "Why I Ride"
- ✓ Brian Anderson to update the Bylaws in advance and sent out to be adopted for the next meeting

rode the streets of Topeka to get a true feel and experience for the city. [Brian Anderson](#) brought a copy of the Topeka Bikeway Plan for the committee to see. The committee asked for the website link so it could be reviewed later. The masterplan included a citizen survey to find out the types of facilities people would be comfortable with on different types of streets and trails. The master plan included the design for bikeway traffic wayfinding signage and how the routes would be organized and named to be a useable transportation system. Members asked questions and answers were fielded by [David Ley](#) and [Brian Anderson](#). The process for selecting a consultant would be to issue a request for proposals from interested firms, select an interview team and set up interviews to select the best consultant for our project. Creating the Request for Proposal could begin this fall so the bike committee review of the RFP could be done this year so it would be sent out early in 2013, when the money is available. Members discussed consultant criteria, tying it in with other neighboring city plans, and the 5 E's.

- Some of the roads suggested are extremely busy. [Alicia Jennings](#) discussed counters for the streets from MARC. Members discuss having bike traffic counts before bike improvements are installed and afterward to see if they increase bike usage. If counters are not available, this counter project will need a volunteer, perhaps from an eagle scout.
- The RFP timeline is to have a draft ready for November but moving forward is not confirmed. [Debra Filla](#), Council Member, wanted to give a council members report on this topic so that council members would have an opportunity to ask questions first. [Brian Anderson](#) would be available to speak about the master plan and answer questions.

New Business

127th Street Update

- David Ley shared that the 127th Street is on the Arterial Program this year. The project is currently out to bid. It includes:
 - Removing and replacing curbs due to deterioration
 - Mill and overlay the roadway and include bike lanes from Nall to Mission
 - Adding bike lanes

The project should finish in October. David Ley discussed striping on existing roadways (Mission Road from 119th to 133rd and areas that could not be striped). Bike lanes for Mission Road are in the distant future. Funding is not earmarked yet. Other options may be available.

- Bike lanes on 127th will be on both sides (4 feet wide), stopping at Roe due to left turn lanes. If you are eastbound, the lane starts at Nall and stops at Roe, then go on to Mission. Westbound is the same way.

Fall Bicycle Event

- Discussed about having a brainstorming session last month but was not able to meet due to scheduling conflicts.
- Members decided to pursue the idea for a fall bicycle event. Members discussed having a family ride, bike rodeo/instruction at the same time, and even a bike event. Brian Anderson gave a few examples like Leavenworth's "Night under the Lights", an evening bike race in a course traffic coned out at a large parking lot complex of a middle school and city park. Members toss out ideas to do a similar event in our park. Ironwoods Park could be a nice location minus the racing. We also talk about how to make this a charity event as well. [Alicia Jennings](#) mentions rodeo events at The Legends and in Olathe that grabs the attention of at least 200 kids. She will contact [Steve Waylan](#) for more information. [Bill Blessing](#) suggested that any event that is child oriented should include a safety rodeo as well as the ride or race. Members discussed marketing to

schools and churches and incorporating it with the art charity aspect of the event. We also discussed the cancellation of Spoke 'n Art and possibly promoting it during "Fall in the Park" Festival (September 28th).

- Erik Butler brought up the idea of just having a cycling event on a Saturday or Sunday morning on Tomahawk Creek Parkway by closing down a section of the parkway and allowing cyclist to ride worry free of cars. This was well received and members started brainstorming for ideas. Members embraced this idea enthusiastically for the following reasons:

- ◆ Open to only cyclists – adults and kids – for worry free riding for approximately 4 hours. Interval training for cyclists.
- ◆ This is a onetime event to judge the outcome. If it becomes popular, perhaps requesting once a month, weather permitting from April - October. The idea is that this would become an extremely popular event due to bicycle clubs throughout the metro.
- ◆ If done on a Sunday morning, there is church and less traffic on that section of parkway (closed at College Boulevard to 119th Street).
- ◆ Businesses on Tomahawk Parkway are closed; less traffic due to non-business hours and road closure is very possible. Those who do work on the weekends can still enter their businesses through accessible interconnecting parking lots. A flier can be sent to those businesses so that they can choose not to work during those hours.
- ◆ Detouring to Nall and Roe poses little inconvenience since it is temporary.
- ◆ In one of the Tomahawk Creek Parkway parking lots, a safety bike rodeo/safety inspection event on the side for kids and perhaps set up bicycling shops along the island areas to promote their wares. Or save this part for next year.
- ◆ Very little requirement from City staff. Permit from the Police Department. The event really would not be a City event as it is just closing down the street.
- ◆ Parking would be allowed in the business parking lots or the old Earl May parking lot at Hen House.
- ◆ Possibly incorporating food trucks for future events.
- ◆ Deciding on a name for the event such as Tomahawk Creek Parkway Freeride.
- ◆ Requesting the event date be Sunday, October 7th, 8 am-11:00 am with Police from 7:30 am – 11:30 am. This event will need approval from the Police, Parks & Recreation, and the City Administrator.

- Alicia Jennings and Marica Putman to make posters. Brian Anderson will promote it to bike shops and blast the flier to Parks and Recreation's program participants.

- There is talk about shooting a video to increase education for motorists and cyclists. Video can sent it out to bicycling clubs, Leawood website, and Chamber of Commerce. Members discuss other options and cycling guidelines.

- International Walk to School Day is October 3rd. The Sustainability Advisory Board participates in this promoting this program in schools. It is known as the Bike/Walk to School Day. The fall program last year was a huge success. The spring program had issues due to other ongoing school events. Members are assigned to various schools to promote various 'green' issues. They were encouraged to come to tonight's meeting. Bill Blessing suggested promoting these two events (cycling and bike/walk) at the 'Fall in the Park' Festival event. He also suggested a walking school bus. The walking school bus is the same as the virtual school bus that Alicia Jennings had previously researched.

 **Other Business**

- The Bylaws will be updated and will be sent out in advance to be adopted at the next meeting.
- Membership terms were discussed. It was noted that member's terms are expiring at the same time.
- An event planning meeting for the bike event is scheduled for September 12th at 6 pm at City Hall, Main Conference room if permission is received.

 **Adjourn**

- Meeting adjourns at 7:45 pm. The Next meeting is October 3rd, 2012.
- Steve Hassler makes a motion for the meeting to be adjourned. Bob Crowell seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.