



MINUTES | February 13, 2013

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

Members Present: Alicia Jennings, Bill Blessing, Steve Hassler, Brian Luce
Staff Present: Brian Anderson, Erik Butler, David Ley, Marica Putman
Members Absent: Bob Crowell, Brian Neilson
Guest: None

The BFC meeting came to order at 6:09 pm.

Call to order

🚩 Approve Agenda

- Bill Blessing made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Steve Hassler seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

🚩 Approve October 3, 2012 Minutes

- Bill Blessing made a motion to approve October 3, 2012 minutes. Steve Hassler seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business – Project Updates

🚩 Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan – Brian Anderson

- A draft of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan was sent to members for review. Brian Anderson and David Ley met with a consultant and discussed the project. Brian Anderson also spoke Dale Crawford, President of the KAN Bike Walk, asked for some resources. He was sent 15 different RFPs from all across the country. He reviewed them, tailoring it for Leawood and really liked the Topeka, Kansas Masterplan.
- Bill Blessing raised a question about going beyond the physical aspects of the Topeka plan such as bike safety programs. This was not in the draft proposed for Leawood and would have liked to have seen it on the draft. Brian Anderson stated that it was not listed as he felt that we already have a firm grasp of those programs. It is noted that Bill Blessing senses that we can do more in those areas and feels that having an endorsement of an outside expert sometimes has more weight than the opinions of the committee. Members discuss the contents of the draft.
- Alicia Jennings asked Brian Anderson if they are going to merge with Kansas City, Missouri's consultant. MARC is going to do a regional bicycle and pedestrian master plan. Kansas City has put theirs out there as they are doing one. He asked Aaron Bartlett if Leawood could be part of that process for continuity. He was told that they were looking at a county level. He feels that Leawood should develop their own plan and make sure that MARC has it and stay involved with them. And keep in contact with Kansas City due to many shared streets. Bill Blessing suggested an additional bullet pertaining to public participation in that our consultant would at least look at the plans of the adjoining cities and MARC has. Members discuss the pros/cons of MARC involvement. MARC is interested in connectivity, especially the downtown area.
- Brian Anderson has sent the draft to the legal department and then he can issue it to the interviewing consultants. It is not known yet if the draft needs to go to Council. He will call MARC for a list of possible consultants. Projected date will be in March. They discuss other details pertaining to consultant costs.
- Bike lanes are done. Initially, Brian Anderson received complaints about them being too bright. Some cyclists don't want the bike lanes present even though studies have shown that it is safer for them to use it. David Ley stated that they are 8" in width and after a few years, they lose their reflectivity. More discussion takes place.
- David Ley mentions that Public Works will be doing a mill and overlay on 119th from Roe to State Line Road (city project). They will add a westbound right turn lane on 119th at Tomahawk Creek Parkway. Because of this, the sidewalk currently present will not be reinstalled because there will not be room for it. Instead there will be a trail connection (10 foot sidewalks) from Tomahawk Creek Parkway to 119th. Camelot Court is coming in for a redevelopment with 8 foot sidewalks along Tomahawk and 119th Street. They discuss bike counts on Lee and other areas. There is no kind of cycling data as of yet.

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

 Erik Butler, Police Officer
 Police

 David Ley, City Engineer
 Public Works

- Bill Blessings shares that Sprint has an active sustainability group and may want to promote bike promotions. Amy Hargrove is their contact person.

Trails

- Brian Anderson received preliminary plans for 123rd street and Mission last week. He and David Ley will make comments on them. Currently, the engineers' estimate is within our funding level. They will be installing soldier pile walls (concrete put into the bedrock and then comes up, below ground, below the trail, stabilizes the soil. The soil beneath the trail can't slide down anymore). As it turns out, the boring and things were not as deep as other sections from an earlier project near there and will be saving us money because the walls will not have to be as long. There will be 5 or 6 drain points where buried storm drains with culverts go down and daylight at the bottom of the creek. Rip raft and retaining walls will be added. This big job will take at least a year to finish. Brian Anderson is concerned about the numbers of trees being removed. Landscaping will be added back. He continues to possible landscaping, easements, improvement, and construction details. Estimate is approximately \$1,000,000.00, includes other storm water improvements.

New Business

Select new Chair and Vice Chair

- Alicia Jennings retains the position as Chair. Bill Blessing accepts the Vice Chair position.

Short-Term/Long-Term Goals/Projects/Events

- Members discuss opportunities, committee actions, etc. We have been working with and making progress with local bike clubs and promoters, arrainging for mountain bike trails maintenance and classes, and more. Members discuss cyclo-cross events.
- Bill Blessings suggests that the committee's vision is one that is one where people can do whatever type of cycling that they aspire to do without having to think about it a lot. The committee would be successful if it is not visible, does not have to hold special events because it's happening on its own; it's organic. To get there you may have to do some things on the way and he does not see that our goal is to be the center of all action. His perception of what the committee is to do is to figure out what the impediments are and get them out of the way and the bicycle community on its own organizes these events. Our existing contacts with organizations are very valuable. Alicia Jennings pointed out that we have tried special events like Spoke 'n Art. Brian Anderson also pointed out that Parks and Recreation does not have a full time bicycle programmer to promote events. We could provide support and partnership to the clubs. He talks about the upcoming mountain bike. Members discuss other options for organizers and past experiences.
- Website presence is critical. The Sustainability Advisory Board did a lot to promote the walk/bike to school events. The committee needs to find a way to capture the various routes and make them available on the website for the community. Create brochures, maps, and apps. Strava is Facebook for cycling. People post their ride.
- Erik Butler brought up a point about putting private property on a trail map. He is specifically talking about the nursing home on Roe where the trail goes underneath Roe. The parking lot is considered private. Brian Anderson will check up on it. David Ley will look on the plat to see if there's an easement for pedestrians. Alicia Jennings will contact the nursing home, Sunrise.
- Erik Butler noted that the wooden barricades for the bicyclists work very well. No cars were on the trail. Cyclists were able to blast right through with no problems. This would be great Ironwoods Park. The only problem with Ironwoods for like a family recreation is the getting out there. Mission Road work is beyond 2020 according to David Ley. They also discussed the school drop off zone.

\$10,000.00 Projects

- 2015 – 143rd, from Nall to Windsor. Stripe 4 foot bike lanes, 4 lane roadway.
- 2018 – 143rd, from Windsor to Kenneth.

Adjourn

- Work meeting to narrow down consultants is 6 pm on March 27th.
- Select consultant to interview in April.
- Meeting adjourns at 7:15 pm. The Next meeting is April 3, 2013.