



MINUTES | November 4, 2015

5:30 pm • Leawood City Hall • 4800 Town Center Drive • Main Conference Room

Members Present: Alicia Jennings, Bill Blessing, Bob Crowell, David Harwood, Brian Neilson, Chuck Sipple, Pete Stover

Staff Present: Brian Anderson, David Ley, Marica Putman

Members Absent: Bill Day, Phil Goff, Mark Klein, Chris Rues

Guest: Debra Filla, SAB and Council Member, Brian Cullum, SAB

The Bicycle Friendly Committee (BFC) meeting came to order at 5:30 pm. Introductions are made. Welcome Debra Filla.

Call to order

🚦 Approve Agenda

- Chair Jennings added 2 items to the agenda: BFC Application Report and Cyclocross event. David Harwood made a motion to approve the agenda. Brian Neilson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

🚦 Approve June 3, 2015 Minutes

- Bob Crowell made a motion to approve June 3, 2015 minutes. Bill Blessing seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Shared Interests with Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) – Debra Filla, Chair of SAB

- Debra Filla shared SAB's history and mission of recycling, green mobility, and conservation.
- BFC, previously under Parks & Recreation, is a subcommittee of SAB again.
- Chuck Sipple is the council liaison for BFC.

Walk/Bike to School Day Review (October 7th) – Chair Jennings

- St. Michaels: 157, 1st Time Participating (Bob Pierson)
- Nativity: 60-100 (Bill Blessing)
- Corinth: 292 (70%)
- Cure: 434 (70%) (Pete Stover, Alicia Jennings)
- Brookwood: 264 (70%) (Brian Neilson)
- Mission Trail: 300+ (check with Gareth Matthews for the number)
- Leawood Middle
- Leawood Elementary
- Prairie Star Elementary & Middle (David Harwood)
- Pete Stover at 95th and Mission.
 - Issues witnessed included right-on-red and right-on-red into the sun, whipping cars, etc.
 - Gave a safety moment on how dangerous and frightening this intersection is at work.
 - Noted how parents were extremely concerned about letting their kids cross at Ranchmart to Price Chopper.
- Bill Blessing at Nativity.
 - Most kids were accompanied by parents. He talked to a few parents and was told that this was not something that they would want their child to do every day.
 - The whole point of this to make people aware of self-propelled access. Make it safe enough and comfortable to want to do this daily without a parent accompany them.
 - He is not sure if this will move forward. People saw this as a one day special event.
- Nativity is considering a walking school bus.
- Nativity and St. Michaels have been awarded a school crossing guard.
- Chuck Sipple asked if there are bike to school paths identified in the bike plan. Brian Anderson answered that they looked at the schools and made recommendations to improve traffic flow on the school's campus, bike routes for schools, filling in sidewalk gaps, etc.

MEMBERS

Alicia Jennings, Chair
 Bill Blessing
 Bob Crowell
 Bill Day
 David Harwood
 Brian Neilson
 Pete Stover
 Chuck Sipple, Council

Chris Claxton
 Director of
 Parks & Recreation

Brian Anderson
 Parks Superintendent

Marica Putman
 Adm. Graphics Tech

Phil Goff
 Police Officer

David Ley
 PW City Engineer

Mark Klein
 P&D Planning Official

Chris Rues
 Police Officer

- David Harwood cited visibility and challenging issues at Prairie Star Elementary and Middle. David Ley answers that they are looking into solutions for that intersection.
- Every school has a challenge. Members continue to discuss these issues at various locations.
- Debra Filla shared what Gareth Matthews, a SAB member, is accomplishing at Mission Trail where his kids attend school.
 - He has identified 5 arterial feeders into the school (reducing the number of kids entering the crosswalk.)The plan is for the principal and school to review these streets and make a request to the city that these feeder streets be designated in the safe routes to school plan.
 - Corinth was awarded the "We the People" award.
 - Corinth is not in Leawood, yet 95% of the kids who attend live in Leawood.
 - Debra Filla shared Corinth's example of the sidewalk next to the cemetery that led to the school. It was so narrow that if a child fell off it, that child would be in the road. The sidewalk was widened and the road was restriped due to the efforts of principal, school nurse, PTO, council members, Alicia Jennings, and herself.
- David Harwood suggested identifying best practices for safe school crossings to be adopted and incorporated in new development projects.
- Members discussed the bike plan and a walking week so that walking to school is what people want to do regularly.
- Bill Blessing cited the committee's goal is to adopt a safe routes plan for the 10 schools.

Proposal for a Bike Race – Brian Anderson

- Ken Whiteside, Leawood Police Officer and member of the Blue River Bicycle Club, inquired about a circuit race bike event to support the Leawood Police Ride for the Fallen.
- The event area would be at College and Tomahawk Creek Parkway and take place in the summer on a Sunday. It would be a circuit race.
- Bill Blessing suggested that the race be closed between 8:30 – 9:30 am for pro riders and then reopened for a public event from 10 am – 12 pm for people to participate and admire the art along Tomahawk Creek Parkway or an impromptu car show.
- There is a unanimous consensus of BFC support. Debra Filla will ask the SAB for their support to recommend to the council and be on the council report for November 16th for their approval.

Bicycle Friendly City Application – Brian Anderson

- Leawood has been recognized as Honorable Mention. The report card may have an error in a statistic Brian Anderson has contacted through email for review.
- Rated low on infrastructure such as bike lanes, etc. average Bronze level cities have 33% of arterial/major collector streets w/bike lanes, ours is 5%, even though Leawood is higher than average with 7% share of the transportation budget spent on cycling/walking vs. the 5% average.
- In Johnson County, the City of Shawnee reapplied and received a bronze designation.
- The American League of Bicyclists website lists Bicycle Friendly Communities in the various categories.
 - Honorable Mention is for one year and then reapply.
 - Bronze or better is for 3 years and then reapply.
- Members review and discuss various issues in the report.

Adjourn

- David Harwood made a motion to carry forward the remaining agenda to the next meeting and adjourn. Bob Crowell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Next meeting is December 2, 2015.