



## **WORTHINGTON BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY BOARD**

### **Minutes of the Monday, January 25, 2016 Meeting**

**Members Present:** The members present were Michael Bates, Lawrence Creed, Ann Horton, Douglas Knight, John Rist, Kelly Whalen and Jeannie Martin (Chair).

City Support Staff present were Celia Thornton (Project Supervisor) and Darren Hurley (Director of Parks & Recreation). Also present was interested resident, Mr. James Seals.

The minutes from the November 23 meeting were approved. Minutes from the January 9 Strategic Meeting were also approved with noted changes to specifically add Sunday Parkways verbiage.

**Chair Nominations:** Eugenia Martin was re-nominated by Mr. Bates as Chair for 2016 (Mrs. Horton seconded the nomination). All were in favor. Mr. Rist nominated Michael Bates as Vice-Chair, Mrs. Horton again seconded the motion with all in favor.

**Bike & Pedestrian Event:** The board discussed the idea of creating, or participating in, some type of City bike event. Ms. Martin has been speaking with a representative of the Old Worthington Partnership about their Green on the Green event, and the possibility of the board having a presence and gathering data.

Mr. Rist said the Green on the Green event would be a good opportunity for community education regarding the new PHB's that will be installed in the downtown area.

**Sub Committees:** The board then had some discussion regarding how to best serve the community. Mr. Whalen wants to make sure the group focuses not just on projects, but putting the ground work in place and organizing for the success of long term goals and vision. Mr. Knight agreed and thinks the best way to do that is to gather data and get community buy-in and commitment, then the community and the board are aligned when presenting project ideas to City Council.

At this point the board created and volunteered for three sub-committees:

Education & Encouragement: John Rist, Doug Knight, Emma Lindholm (should she agree)

Engineering: Michael Bates, Kelly Whalen, Ann Horton

Enforcement & Evaluation: Larry Creed, Amy Cooper (should she agree)

Mr. Rist will continue to explore alternative financing options on his own and present them to the board as necessary.

The sub-committees were going to try and meet on their own time prior to the next meeting and touch base with Ms. Martin. At some point we will need to establish some type of file sharing system, possibly Drop Box.

At this point Ms. Martin clarified and asked all members to remember that we are an advisory board rather than an action based commission. Our purpose is to give Council guidance and provide resources and evaluation. We need the blessing of Council to move forward on projects. Mr. Whalen asked how we do events if this is the case. Mr. Hurley said the best way would be to tag on to existing events (partner with other entities) or recommend that the City do an event (which the board could support). Mr. Rist asked for a calendar of all City events and would like to know when the new PHB's are expected to be installed.

**Other:** The group discussed Mr. Hurley's memo to City Council and suggested several changes. Mr. Hurley will make the changes and email the revised memo out to the group. Mr. Knight motioned approval with changes, Mr. Bates seconded the motion with all in favor.

The board revisited the Olentangy Parklands trailhead renovation. Mr. Hurley presented the Parks and Recreation Commission vision and shared the following reasons why Commission prefers the originally suggested trailhead improvement location, including added costs to the secondary location for water and earthwork, proximity to the skatepark, and the original vision of replacing the existing trailhead which is located close to their preferred location. Mr. Whalen raised his concerns regarding the flow of traffic at the alternative (nexus) location. Ms. Martin stated that one of her primary concerns is that she would like to know that there is a good plan in place, one that can be added to as necessary and that is visually pleasing and useful to all trail users.

Mr. Hurley gave a brief Central Ohio Greenways (C.O.G.) update.

Mrs. Horton shared that she'd had contact with the president of the Ohio Erie Trail and that he would be willing to come and talk to our group about the trail and upcoming projects and phases. The group agreed this would be a good idea.

Mr. Seals introduced himself and commented that after listening to the boards discussions about mission and vision his opinion was that the board would be more successful in giving advice rather than running events, and suggested trail courtesy and safety be areas of focus.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.