

**REPORT OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, April 19, 2016 - 10:00 AM

Conference Room, County-City Building  
1515 Strongs Avenue - Stevens Point WI 54481

PRESENT: Tori Jennings, Trevor Roark, Scott Cole

ABSENT: Maud Lamarche

STAFF PRESENT: Kyle Kearns

ALSO PRESENT: Bob Fisch, Jack Ivansek, Sean Piette, David Shorr

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1. Call to Order.
2. Minutes and Actions from February 16, 2016 meeting, special sessions held February 19 and March 3, 2016, and March 15, 2016 meeting.
3. Welcome Scott Cole as the newly appointed member of BPAC.
4. Persons who wish to address committee for up to three (3) minutes on a non-agenda item.
5. Info about Midwest Active Transportation Conference - Trevor Roark attending.
6. Discuss UWSP new and transfer student orientations held in June and August; how to educate students about bicycle licensing and provide convenient licensing; bicycling safety; encourage bicycling to school and work.
7. Introduce Nick Myers and the pending UWSP Pedestrian Safety Task Force.
8. Review tag design for abandoned bicycle ordinance.
9. Discuss tenant bicycle parking Downtown.
10. Hmong youth bicycle skills and safety clinic.
11. Discuss & approve possible sponsorship of new event – Main Street Parks.
12. Discuss & approve the League of American Bicyclists bike ride route.
13. Schedule next meeting.
14. Adjourn.

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1. Call to Order.

Meeting was called to order by Tori Jennings at 11:00 AM.

2. Minutes and Actions from February 16, 2016 meeting, special sessions held February 19 and March 3, 2016, and March 15, 2016 meeting.

**Motion by Trevor Roark to approve minutes; second by Scott Cole. Motion carries 3-0-0.**

3. Welcome Scott Cole as the newly appointed member of BPAC.

Scott Cole welcomed as the newly appointed member of BPAC.

4. Persons who wish to address committee for up to three (3) minutes on a non-agenda item.

No comments were made by public.

5. Info about Midwest Active Transportation Conference - Trevor Roark attending.

Trevor Roark provided information about the Midwest Active Transportation Conference he will be attending. This conference will provide education and networking opportunities for BPAC. No action was required.

6. Discuss UWSP new and transfer student orientations held in June and August; how to educate students about bicycle licensing and provide convenient licensing; bicycling safety; encourage bicycling to school and work.

Tori Jennings stated that UWSP orientation is a good opportunity to provide education materials and information about bicycling and walking in Stevens Point. She asked for input on how BPAC might best provide information to students and engage them in bicycling.

Trevor Roark explained that the orientation process is very fast paced and it is not always possible to table events. There are 8 orientation events per month beginning in June. We might consider partnering with someone at a table or consider other ways to provide handout material such as bike licensing information.

Scott Cole suggested that waiting until students moved in might be another approach, perhaps move-in day, or provide information at the DUC.

Tori Jennings suggested that we consider doing orientation rides for students, provide guided tours and organized group rides for different levels of riders.

Scott Cole added that getting information out will be important. He suggested in addition to handouts, publishing an article in The Pointer at the beginning of the term.

Jack Ivansek supported the guided ride idea and said it would encourage students to ride bikes. He thought BPAC could partner with 350 Club or another UWSP sustainability group to get volunteers.

Scott Cole added that guided rides would help students learn safe riding skills and routes, and students would become familiar with the Green Circle Trail and other bicycling routes around town.

The committee discussed possible weekdays and concluded that Wednesdays would likely be the optimal afternoon to conduct organized rides.

Bob Fisch added that the Heartland underpass is often unknown to students and this route will connect students to a number of shopping and business areas on the east side of town.

Sean Piette suggested that creating a map that shows students not only places to ride, but places of interest downtown such as restaurants and shops would be helpful. A community map and area information could be linked to the Campus Living webpage on the UWSP website.

Scott Cole commented that new students arriving in Stevens Point are often intimidated and these efforts would be a good idea.

7. Introduce Nick Myers and the pending UWSP Pedestrian Safety Task Force.

Jack Ivansek stood in for Nick Myers who could not attend the meeting. Jack updated the committee on efforts by the UWSP Safety Task Force to improve pedestrian safety on and around campus. The plan is that BPAC and the PSTF on behalf of student government will work together to tackle short term pedestrian safety problems on campus. Jack Ivansek also discussed upgrading lighting around campus. The PSTF is currently working with Alder Ryan and the Director of Public Works on this issue.

Scott Cole asked if parking issues have been addressed given the new Science Building. He added that students who live only a few blocks away are unnecessarily driving to campus.

David Shorr asked if any discussion has taken place about closing Isadore and turning it into parking.

Trevor said that parking pricing is the solution to the parking problem. In contrast to UWSP, freshmen at LaCrosse are not allowed to have cars on campus. He emphasized that until the parking price is increased, the parking problem will continue.

8. Review tag design for abandoned bicycle ordinance.

Tori Jennings explained that following the adoption of the Abandoned Bike Ordinance, BPAC intended to provide to the Police Department a possible tag design for abandoned bikes. She explained the basic information that needs to be on the tag, and provided information about a self-adhering tag similar to airport luggage tags. Other options such as zip ties and wire were discussed.

Scott Cole stated that some parks use a self-adhering tag for trail passes and he would find out more information.

Kyle said he would forward recommendations to the Police Department and provide BPAC with an update.

9. Discuss tenant bicycle parking Downtown.

Tori Jennings asked the committee for ideas on how to address the problem of downtown tenants using public bike racks for storing bicycles. The racks cannot be used by the public for shopping or visiting restaurants when tenants use them for storage.

Trevor asked if we should wait until enforcement occurs.

Scott Cole suggested sending tenants and landlords information about the ordinance.

Kyle Kearns stated that new buildings are required to add bike parking; however existing downtown properties are difficult because property owners do not own the land adjacent to their building. Consequently they cannot physically add bike parking.

Sean Piette suggested converting a parking space into bike parking and/or providing covered winter bike parking.

The committee concluded it will wait and see how the ordinance works and take up the subject if necessary later in the year.

10. Among youth bicycle skills and safety clinic.

Tori Jennings stated that the opportunity for a bike skills clinic has been missed because of the weather and other issues. She will revisit the skills clinic at another time.

Bob Fisch said there will likely be statewide interest in this project once we get experience running it.

11. Discuss & approve possible sponsorship of new event – Main Street Parks.

Trevor Roark provided information about a Parking Day event and the benefits this would have for downtown businesses. He suggested that we seek approval from the Public Protection Committee to make this a city event sponsored by BPAC. Following discussion by the committee, it was recommended that Trevor first visit the Associate of Downtown Businesses for support.

**Motion by Trevor Roark to investigate a Parking Day event; second by Scott Cole.**

**Motion carries 3-0-0.**

12. Discuss & approve the League of American Bicyclists bike ride route.

Kyle Kearns provided information about the League of American Bicyclists visit on April 27, 2016. He provided maps of the recommended 8 and 5 mile alternative bike routes. The committee discussed the route and the presentation schedule.

**Motion by Trevor Roark to approve the BFC bike ride route; second by Scott Cole.**

**Motion carries 3-0-0.**

13. Schedule next meeting.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 10:00 AM.

14. Adjourn.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.