



MINUTES

BIKE TASK FORCE

**CITY HALL SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
505 BUTLER PLACE
PARK RIDGE, IL 60068**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2017 AT 7:00PM

I. Roll Call

On roll call, the following indicated their presence: Melissa Hulting, Jim O'Donnell, Joe DeYoung, Claris Olsen, Lauren Pahnke, Scott Scheuber and Adam Sciortino. Also present were Steve Schilling and Senior Administrative Assistant Brigid Madden.

Alderman Roger Shubert was absent, as the City Council Budget Workshop was in progress at the same time. Eric Coker and Matthew Talbert were also absent.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting – March 8, 2017

On a motion by Melissa Hulting, seconded by Claris Olsen, the Task Force agreed to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2017 meeting.

The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

B. Special Meeting – April 6, 2017

On a motion by Melissa Hulting, seconded by Scott Scheuber, the Task Force agreed to approve the minutes from the April 6, 2017 special meeting.

The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

III. Report from Ride Illinois Bike Plan Kick-off Meeting

Chairman O'Donnell explained that Ed Barsotti attended the meeting on behalf of Ride Illinois. Joe DeYoung, Claris Olsen, Melissa Hulting and Chairman O'Donnell were present from the Task Force, along with Public Works Director Wayne Zingsheim, Forester Ben Reynoso and Engineer Sarah Mitchell.

Chairman O'Donnell reviewed the meeting. He explained that Mr. Barsotti discussed the "guiding principles." City staff was receptive throughout the meeting. M. Hulting noted some apprehension toward "road diets."

S. Scheuber addressed concerns with the construction along Talcott Road. A new curb will be going in at the entrance to the Des Plaines River Trail and it appears as if it will not be bike friendly.

IV. Update from the April 6th Special Meeting

Chairman O'Donnell provided a recap from the meeting. One group worked to determine the routes to study, which must be provided to Ride Illinois by May 15, and the other worked on the public outreach survey.

M. Hulting explained that a short paragraph and the survey link have been provided to the Park District to be included in their April e-blast.

Chairman O'Donnell displayed the survey on the projector and the Task Force members provided input.

Chairman O'Donnell stated that the survey was too long. A. Sciortino explained that he foresees a lot of abandonment. M. Hulting explained that M. Talbert set up the survey and completed it in six minutes. He was open to suggestions as to how to shorten it.

C. Olsen suggested requiring a zip code to validate that the individual is from Park Ridge.

A. Sciortino suggested adding Maine Park Leisure Center and Wildwood Nature Center as destinations. It was determined that users should be allowed to specify the name of the park as they would for the name of a school in that same question.

C. Olsen suggested that the question regarding the frequency in which one bikes be clearer. She found that "a few times" was vague.

A. Sciortino stressed the importance of ensuring each question has a purpose and be of value to the Task Force, especially if they are being mindful of the length of the survey.

M. Hulting explained that the language for the next questions which asks, "what prevents you from biking more often," was standard language from Active Transportation Alliance (ATA). She added the option of "lack of street lighting."

The next section addresses kids and biking. The members discussed how this this loop will lengthen the survey. J. DeYoung asked if the non-public schools should be listed. Those who attend private schools can utilize the "other" selection for this question, as the assumption was that public school students would be the majority. S. Scheuber indicated that he would like for people to make more than one selection for the question regarding their mode of transportation to school. There was a consensus to add an "other" selection for the question regarding what prevents students from biking or walking to school. Use of provide bus service was added as an answer to this question. S. Scheuber asked for the "safety" response to be clarified. It was determined that it would be narrowed to safety relative to driver behavior.

Chairman O'Donnell asked why walking was included in this question. M. Hulting explained that there were likely a number of students that could walk to school that are currently driven.

A. Sciortino asked how "actionable" school bike safety is for the Task Force. S. Scheuber and L. Pahnke suggested that the information could be used to develop safer bike routes for students. A. Sciortino explained that the school district already has specific bike routes for each school. He displayed the map of these routes. J. DeYoung explained that based on the bike parking audit, the majority of students that bike are in middle school. He asked if the Bike Task Force was trying to encourage younger students to bike to school.

The Task Force discussed the question that addresses commuting to the Metra station. The responses were edited and it was decided that the question would be required. M. Hulting explained that most of the questions in the survey would require an answer and could not be skipped.

The next question asked for three streets people feel comfortable biking. The Task Force concluded that this question should be on the same page as the follow-up question that asks why

the selection was made. This will also apply to the question about streets that are not safe for cycling.

The Park District and District 64 will distribute the survey. C. Olsen suggested asking Dick Barton to write a press release in May, as it is National Bicycle Month. M. Hulting asked if it would be possible to ask District 207 to send the survey out to parents. C. Olsen will inquire. The survey will also be sent out through the City's website and social media.

Chairman O'Donnell explained that the discussion about bike routes has focused on destinations and connectivity. A. Sciortino wrote up notes from the special meeting and J. DeYoung prepared a comparison to the 2006 Bike Plan. Both documents are available in the Task Force Dropbox. Chairman O'Donnell recommended that the Task Force review the documents and prepare suggestions. Chairman O'Donnell explained the importance of input and recommendations from Mr. Barsotti.

Chairman O'Donnell explained that the Task Force must provide route information to Ride Illinois by May 15. Prior to that, data from the survey must be reviewed. M. Hulting suggested closing the survey on May 10. Once the suggested changes are implemented, the survey will go live.

Chairman O'Donnell asked that the Task Force members send their comments directly to him via email to be reviewed at the next meeting.

V. Report on Status of Bike Parking Proposals

J. DeYoung stated that the RFP for bike parking was sent out two weeks ago to six contractors. The list of possible bidders came from DERO, a primary manufacturer of bike racks. He met with Procurement Officer Jim McGuire prior to sending out the information and will review the bids with the Public Works Department by the end of the month. The bids will be broken down into phases, the first being the Uptown Metra Station.

J. DeYoung reviewed the language from the RFP which he described as flexible and includes price holds.

Chairman O'Donnell asked if the type of bike rack is specified in the RFP. J. DeYoung indicated that it was. He reviewed the parking plan for the Metra station. The plan will saturate the Metra area with additional parking and includes pouring a concrete pad on Vine Street near Dolcetti for bike racks. The Task Force discussed scooter parking on Main Street and whether or not the new plan would still accommodate scooters. J. DeYoung indicated that scooters could be accommodated.

J. DeYoung explained that the "hitch" bike racks are the only ones he would like to see reused somewhere else. The bid calls for the other racks to be disposed of.

Chairman O'Donnell indicated that the placement and installation of the racks should be coordinated with Director Zingsheim. They discussed the need for a permit and staff to oversee the installation. Chairman O'Donnell asked that J. DeYoung work with Director Zingsheim after the bids have been received and reviewed by the Task Force.

A. Sciortino explained that he was not familiar with the types of racks suggested in the bike parking plan. He questioned how a rider secures their bike to the rack and the overall security. J. DeYoung explained that the racks are designed for two points of contact. He provided a handout illustrating the different types of racks. J. DeYoung explained that Mr. Barsotti was going to address bike security by providing information on the number of bikes stolen in Park Ridge and where they were stolen from. Bike parking at the Cumberland CTA station was discussed.

VI. Discussion on Co-hosting Event with Des Plaines

Chairman O'Donnell displayed an email from Des Plaines Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (DPBPAC) inviting the Task Force to co-host a River Trail ride on September 9. M.

Hulting asked what would be expected from the Task Force and suggested that the Task Force could assist with promoting the event and planning the route. A. Sciortino explained that the goal of the event should be to gain visibility and bring together supporters.

Chairman O'Donnell suggested that if there was interest from the Task Force and a couple of members were willing to work on the project, that they should contact the DPBPAC to find out what is needed from the Bike Task Force. S. Scheuber asked if there was any reason why the Task Force would be unable to support the event. He explained that this organization is not affiliated with the City of Des Plaines; it is an independent citizen organization.

S. Scheuber explained that he would reach out for more information about the expectations and present that information at the next meeting. Chairman O'Donnell explained that the Task Force is not in a position to provide financial resources.

L. Pahnke explained that riders are required to register for the event but it is free. The Task Force discussed potential sponsors and the need to support from the City's public safety departments.

C. Olsen suggested offering valet bike parking at the Taste of Park Ridge.

VII. Website Landing Page

Chairman O'Donnell displayed the City's website on the projector. Brigid Madden explained that the landing page now links from the "Living in Park Ridge" section of the website. She reviewed the page content.

Chairman O'Donnell asked how the site will be updated going forward. B. Madden stated that updates could be sent to her attention.

VIII. New Business

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.