

Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee

Minutes from March 10, 2015

Lincoln Parks and Recreation – 2740 “A” Street

Members Present: Parks Coble, Elaine Hammer, Marynelle Greene, Damon Hershey, Delrae Hirschman, Jordan Messerer, Dalyce Ronnau, Bill Spielman, Beth Thacker, Bill Wehrbein, Michael Wylie.

Staff Present: Mike Heyl, Kellee Van Bruggen, Terry Genrich.

Others Present: Pam Manske

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 a.m., followed by announcement recognizing regulations of the Open Meetings Act as posted by the door.

Minutes:

Approval of February 10, 2015 minutes: Motion to approve was made by Dalyce Ronnau and seconded by Rick Parks Coble. Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports:

- Wilderness Park bridge should be able to completed in the next few weeks.
- Jamaica North Trail – the contractor is starting up after winter shutdown and should be able to replace the panels that were damaged as well as close the project out in the next couple of weeks.
- We received approval to start the process of hiring a firm to do the PE for the Pioneers Park Trail Phase III,
- Trees that needed to be removed for the Billy Wolff Trail project between Randolph and 27th and Capital Pkwy have been with very few calls.
- Several trails will be improved this summer including a retaining wall along Tierra/Williamsburg, Pine Lake. Rd. Trail and 84th Street Trail between Adams and Murdock Trail.
- Department has purchased a new piece of equipment to help control the weeds and vegetation that grows up in the cracks along the trails.

There was a concern with signage in Wilderness Park, especially just north of Saltillo Rd. near 27th.

Old Business

Information on “N” Street is available on the Bike Lincoln web page. The contract for the entire project has been signed.

Planning is still waiting to hear back on the success of their CMAQ application for funds for the Bike Share Program. It would involve a 15 station, 100 bike program. The committee working on this would like to get it moving in the spring of 2016. There will be a need to get a coalition together to work on sponsorships for the project. There is not a date for when they would approve the application.

There was considerable discussion on legislation. LB641 was discussed and the fact that it made it out of committee but they struck the word bicycle in it which wouldn't allow a bicycle on a sidewalk. They are trying to amend that piece of legislation to allow that. This still doesn't resolve the concern with bicycles in cross walks. Allowing E-bikes on multi-use paths was approved and is now state law. The city might have to approve this now to allow for that on the trails.

There was a concern regarding getting ahead of the next legislative session to have bike related legislation ready to go.

A motion was made by Elaine Hammer and seconded by Michael Wylie to have PBAC take the lead and put together a group of members that would work on researching and preparing a position on changes needed for pedestrian and bicycle related issues presented in the legislature this year that did not pass and other issues that are important and need to be brought up in the next legislative session. It is important the issues be supported by other individuals, agencies, and officials. Motion approved unanimously.

Complete Streets report has been drafted and will be reviewed by the Mayor and then it can move forward.

There was a question regarding the \$10 million dollars for street projects. These projects should be reviewed by the Complete Streets Committee.

Mike Heyl met with Citizen Information regarding projects they can do with the \$24K for educating motorists and bicyclists on safety issues.

Kellee stated Transportation Secretary Fox has issued that Pedestrian and bicycle safety are key factors to be worked on. A stakeholders group identified 27th Street from “A” to Holdrege for the assessment that will take place on April 10th. Please let Kellee know if you are interested in helping. FHWA will take that information and prepare a report.

There was a question as to whether or not the Mayor is going to accept the Transportation Secretary Fox's challenge on pedestrian and bicycle safety.