



West Lafayette Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Minutes of Meeting held Thursday April 8, 2010 6:00 PM
Board Room, West Lafayette Public Library

Present: Curt Ashendel (presiding), Bill Arthur, Pat Boling, Stewart Frescas, Carl Griffin

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm.

2. Corrections were requested for the minutes of the previous meeting (November 17) which were distributed by email on March 4 with this agenda and also at this meeting. Curt noted that the date of Bike to work day was shown in the minutes as May 12 in the minutes, yet is actually scheduled by the LAB for May 21.

3. News of developments since the last meeting:

The comments and published statement of USDOT Secretary Roy LaHood at the National Bicycle Summit were presented in brief by Curt, not it was noted that that “talk is cheap” and that making sure this happens requires active challenges to the way state DOTs spend their money on projects that could be more “complete” (as in “complete streets”) – and such projects are almost all planned at the local level, making the challenges best done locally. This is this committee’s method. Carl commented that it seems that more and more momentum is going in the direction advocated by the Committee, and this was heartening.

Curt also distributed the Health By Design coalition newsletter forwarded by email from Roseann Lyle.

Others news – by participants present:

Pat said she will distribute the newsletter from the bike club (WRCC) to the committee participant list as it is generated.

4. Open forum for problems and ideas for new actions

The question of the rough rail crossing at Lindberg Rd was raised. Curt said he will pursue this.

5. Project Reports (with activity)

CLEAN Community Challenge – Curt reported that the City’s application has been submitted to IDEM. This proposal has significant bicycle and pedestrian elements, including a commitment by the City to encourage city employees and residents to use non-motorized transportation as often as possible.

Bike to work day – Bill and Pat presented the progress to date which included several meetings and outreach efforts. There will be a rally at Riehle Plaza at 7:30AM on May 21 at which the two Mayors will read a proclamation that will be signed on May 1. There will be a sign-in process (to count people and

generate an email list) and also a photo opportunity for the local politicians. Mayor Dennis plans to run to it (he prefers running to cycling). There will be some refreshments by KDs coffee. It will be mentioned in the J&C column by Mike Levinthal. A draft poster has been generated for publicity. Carl raised the issue of funding for printing more posters and suggested that both Alcoa and Clarion might contribute a few hundred dollars towards poster printing, Stewart volunteered to post some or all of the posters.

6. Upcoming meetings:

The next CPC meeting will be April 27 (Tuesday) at 7:00 PM in the County Office Building.

The next WL Traffic Commission meeting is 5:00pm Tuesday April 20 in the WL City Hall

The next APC Technical Transportation Meeting is 2pm on Wednesday April 14 in the County Office Bldg.

7. Other business and announcements

Pat said the WRCC will be holding a callout for new members at a ride scheduled for Saturday May 22 at the Battleground Museum Parking lot in Battleground.

Pat asked about applying for the League of American Bicyclists Friendly City designation. Curt provided some history about that topic dating back to the late 1990s when Margie Deverall's efforts and application got WL that designation in the first incarnation of the LAB program. [LAB's Bicycle Friendly Community program has since been retooled with four different tiers.] The signs West Lafayette given with this designation were placed at some of the main entrances to the city with press coverage. At that time there was a large outpouring of disparaging remarks by the public (unfamiliar with the application process and the meaning of the designation) in the press that claimed the community was not at all bicycle friendly. The signs probably have since been removed. Curt commented that the application process is now considerably more complex but that he believes that we are already doing most of the required activities for this designation (the lack of progress on revising the bike-ped plan notwithstanding), so the question is whether or not the benefits of the designation are worth the costs.

The next meeting of this committee will be Thursday, May 13th at 6:00 pm.

8. The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:56 pm

These minutes were submitted by email on April 27, 2010 by Curt Ashendel.