



West Lafayette Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Minutes of Meeting held Thursday May 13, 2010 6:00 PM
Elm Room, West Lafayette Public Library

Present: Curt Ashendel (presiding), 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 (April 8). None were noted.
- 3. News of developments since the last meeting:**

CPC meeting held April 27 – Yeager Rd project and Cumberland Road Extension Project – These were not discussed since Pat and Stewart were at that workshop. Here is a summary of what transpired:

David Buck from West Lafayette and a consultant presented the finished plan for Yeager Road Phase I improvements which involve reconstruction from Northwestern to US52. This includes a number of improvements on Northwestern Ave, including a roundabout at that intersection, a wide multiuse trail on the NW side of Northwestern (this will link up with the Cattail trail in 2013), and a sidewalk connection to the sidewalk section on Northwestern by the condominiums. There will be a 10 ft wide multiuse trail on the west side of Yeager and a 5 ft wide sidewalk on the east side. The road will be widened from 3 lanes to five. The project plan is completed, right of way purchasing is ongoing, and the construction contract should be let in 2011. The link to the project on the WL web site is:
<http://www.westlafayette.in.gov/egov/docs/1250519051577.htm>

Opal Kuhl from County Highway department presented the plan for the Cumberland Road Extension west to Klondike Rd (CR 300 W), which it will meet at CR 250N. The road will be urban style (with curb and gutter) will be four 11 ft wide lanes (undivided) and have a 4 ft sidewalk on one side and an 8 ft wide trail on the other. The present plan is to not stripe for bike lanes. There will be a signal where it intersects with the new US231. Currently this is in discussions for right of way purchase and construction contract should be let about 6 to 12 months after the work on US 231 begins (now scheduled for October 2011). Opal also indicated that there is a new owner of the railway line that crosses Lindberg and Klondike and that owner wants to fix the three at-grade crossings ASAP. That work will be done in June after the TSC schools end their year.

Also discussed at that meeting was the plan by INDOT for reconstructing US52 in Lafayette from the Wabash River to SR 38. The part from the river to Greenbush will not have sidewalks and will be rural style with shoulders, so the design will remain unchanged there. The remaining road will be urban style (curbs and gutters) with a lot of expensive drainage added. Also added will be a sidewalk, but mostly this will only be on one side to keep the cost of the project (already \$25M) under control. Many comments were made on how the lack of sidewalks on both sides was unacceptable.

US 52 Corridor Study Workshop held May 10. Curt reported that the consultants presented the main findings of their report, which identified numerous deficiencies both presently and in models of future traffic loads. They have not yet started to work on solutions. A number of comments were made by those in attendance about problems. Curt contributed that lowering speeds and improving the intersections for pedestrians, including safe refuge at the median, as well as completing the sidewalks and reducing the number of driveways were important to pedestrians. The complete consultants report will be posted on the APC Transportation Planning website (a copy of the first chapters will also be on the WLBPC website at <http://www.westlafayettebikeped.org/Committee/Minutes/US52May2010StudyFirstChapters.pdf>). In a discussion after the presentation it seems clear that the APC anticipates that a major effort will be made to lower the speeds on US52 as to improve safety for pedestrians along there.

Others news – by participants present:

Curt also indicated that Tom Gall and John Thomas had attended the LAB safe bicycling course in Indianapolis and found it very helpful. John suggested that we find a sponsor to hold such a class in town. Curt is looking into this.

4. Open forum for problems and ideas for new actions

None were presented.

5. Project Reports (with activity)

CLEAN Community Challenge – Curt reported that the City's application has been approved by IDEM and West Lafayette has become the 14th city in the state to achieve this. The IDEM commissioner will be in town during June to make the presentation.

Bike to work day – Pat presented the planning and preparation which is very far along. She showed a poster, which was created at Clarian Arnett, who also paid to have them printed (100 8.5x11 and 40 11 x 17) which Stewart posted. Media publicity also has been great. There will be food provided at subsidized prices (subsidized by a \$100 contribution from Alcoa) at the rally by downtown businesses K Dees Coffee and also by Peaceful Greens. There will also be a raffle at the rally for some courier bags (the raffle will ask for names and email addresses).

6. Upcoming meetings:

The next CPC meeting will be May 25 (Tuesday) at 7:00 PM in the County Office Building. The Transportation Improvement Plan will be discussed.

The next WL Traffic Commission meeting is 5:00pm Tuesday May 18 in the WL City Hall

The next APC Technical Transportation Meeting is 2pm on Wednesday June 9 in the County Office Bldg.

7. Other business and announcements

Pat suggested that we should take on encouraging city businesses to have bicycle parking as one of our next projects. She is interested in this.

Stewart announced that the City of Lafayette will be buying and installing a 3 sided bike rack in front of the new bike shop on Main street, Virtuous Cycles.

Curt Announced that the City of West Lafayette is considering a reduction of its motor vehicle parking requirements for new businesses, a policy change inspired by business development in the Village.

There was a discussion of when to hold the next meeting of the committee, in June or July. It was decided that a wrap up of Bike to Work Day would be good for June, and that we could skip July and meet again either in August or/or September. So the next meeting will be June 10th at 6pm.

8. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:10 pm

These minutes were submitted by email on May 22, 2010 by Curt Ashendel.