



## **West Lafayette Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee**

Minutes of Meeting held Thursday November 8, 2012 6:00 PM  
Board Room, West Lafayette Public Library

Present: Curt Ashendel (presiding), Jim Bethel, Pat Boling, and Nick Harby

### **1. The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm.**

**2. Corrections were requested for the minutes** of the previous meeting (July 12, 2012) which were posted to the WLBPC web site (<http://www.westlafayettebikeped.org/Committee/Minutes.html>) on September 12, 2012 and also provided at this meeting. None were noted in the meeting.

### **3. News of developments since the last meeting:**

CPC meeting held Sept 25 – Curt reported on the updated Urban Boundary for the Thoroughfare Plan revision and on Hot Spots (a way in which problems with infrastructure can be reported and dealt with by APC transportation planning staff networking with various city and county staff).

US 231 update (Lindberg closure through Dec 1) – It should be reopening soon

Exponent article about “Ineffective Bike Lanes” on the Purdue Campus ([a reprint is here](#)) – Joey Iuliano’s study and report spurred a front page Exponent article published on November 1. The considerable discussion about how progress could be made solving this issue. Jim felt that bike lanes may be contributing to the problem by encouraging speed and a sense of ownership by cyclists. The worst behavior by cyclists on all areas of campus include zig-zagging, excessive speed, too close proximity to peds, and no audible warning by cyclists. Pat suggested that there be more instruction given at student orientation (BGR), though this impacts only new students and there is no opportunity to refresh students on proper etiquette. Curt suggested that there should be some areas on campus that have a “no-ride, walk bikes only” policy during class change times, though there is no way to effectively enforce that. Another idea was to make an instructional video on good and bad behavior that could be used by BGR or others. Jim suggested that Prof. Jon Fricker in Civil Engineering may have a student that would be interested in working on this, along with some of us. Pat and Jim were willing to participate and will also ask Joey.

Pat asked about the trail to be (or being added) to the west side of Northwestern Ave north of Lindberg and south of Yeager. Curt said that was in the plan for the Yeager project as well as sidewalk improvements on Northwestern Ave., but he had not seen construction work on it. No one seemed to have any info on that trail.

### **4. Open forum for problems and ideas for new actions**

No problems were raised.

### **5. Projects of the Committee (only those projects discussed):**

- a. Jim and Curt re-committed to following up with the Purdue Parking people about covered bike parking on campus.
- b. Pat pleaded for new people to help with Bike to Work Day in May

- c. Concerning state legislation that would increase penalties for injury or death to vulnerable road users, Pat will ask Andy to talk about this with Randy Truitt, our state representative. Pat also knows some local lawyers that may be willing to help draft legislation and will discuss this with them.
- d. Curt presented on his priorities for the next year: Snow removal by the City, Cyclist/Ped counting annually or more often, and improved community input on what is needed for cycling and pedestrians.
- e. Pat raised the possibility that we work on getting the community recognized as a Bicycle Friendly Community through the League of American Bicyclists. Curt will look into this.

## **6. Upcoming meetings:**

The next meeting of the Citizens Participation Committee of the Area Plan Commission has not yet been announced, but the next meeting normally would be scheduled to be held at 7PM Tuesday, November 27 in the Grand Prairie room of the County Office Building.

The next WL Traffic Commission meetings are at 5:00pm on the second Tuesday of each month in the WL City Hall

The next APC Technical Transportation Meetings are at 2 pm on the second Wednesday of each month in the County Office Bldg.

## **7. Other business and announcements**

The issue of meeting frequency and times was raised and there was no objections to continuing in the current pattern of the second Thursday of every other month. So the next meeting of this committee will be Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Subsequent meetings will be March 21 (moved due to Purdue's Spring Break), May 9, July 11, September 12, and November 14.

Pat will be teaching a class next year on the Politics of Bicycling.

## **8. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm**

These minutes were submitted to the WLBPC website on January 8, 2013 by Curt Ashendel