



West Lafayette Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Minutes of Meeting held Thursday January 12, 2017 6:00 PM
Board Room, West Lafayette Public Library

Present: Curt Ashendel (presiding), Bill Arthur, Stewart Frescas and Jim Bethel.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm.

2. **Corrections were requested for the minutes** of the previous meeting (December 8, 2016) which were posted to the WLBPC web site (<http://www.westlafayettebikeped.org/Committee/Minutes.html>) on January 10, 2017 and also provided at this meeting. No corrections were noted in the meeting.

3. News of developments since the last meeting

- a. The meetings about improving the safety of cyclists on the Harrison Bridge and throughout the cities (referred to by the name County-Cities-Cycling meetings) morphed into a committee focused on the \$37,500 safety education project involving a consultant. This group met in December and there will be another meeting of this group next week. The December meeting walked the group through the consultant's plans and activities for this year. Bill indicated he had been invited to attend this series of meetings.
- b. The Wabash River Enhancement Corp. (WREC) held a public meeting the evening of Dec. 12, 2016 to present the preliminary engineering for the Central Reach of the river (from the Harrison Bridge to the railroad bridge just south of the State St/South-Columbia bridge.) The most interesting parts were about the Sky Link bike-ped suspension bridge at the site of the old Brown Street bridge, as well as the Riverside Promenade North. Curt showed images of the Sky Link Bridge and indicated that it was WREC's highest priority and that they were trying to achieve a funding deal for it that would make it happen this year. WREC is also planning an additional bridge at Mascouten Park (on the WL side).
- c. Concerning the Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2040 five-year update, Curt sent some comments and suggestions to John Thomas, primarily to add specific goals to have community bike ped plans and bike-ped coordinators in place and to have those plans advocate for policies and improvements that increase bike and ped mode share. These were included in the MTP draft.
- d. There were some modifications made to the vehicle on ramps (both EB and WB) on the WL side of the bridge. Curt requested information about these from WL Engineering Department. They were moved back from the merge point and include Hawk flashers (push button activated) with striped crosswalks for pedestrians. These were added after a safety audit by WL Engineering found that ped safety was at risk at these crossings.
- e. Curt has not yet met with Erik Carlson. It is hoped to meet sometime in the next 2 to 8 weeks to discuss several bike-ped issues including problem spots and what is needed for them, Bike Friendly City application, creating a Bike-Ped Plan, a WL complete streets ordinance, and the possibility of a Bike-Ped coordinator for the city.

4. Open forum for problems and ideas for new actions

- a. Stewart commented that while abandoned bikes on campus are being marked and removed on an ongoing basis now, versus the previous infrequent twice-per year approach, there is a new problem with the indoor bike parking in the parking garages, particularly the Grant Street garage. Here bicycles are parked for long term, rather than daily use, and as a result there is no parking available for bicycle commuters.
- b. Stewart also noted that we need to be cautious about autonomous vehicles being allowed on the street without thorough testing for safety with cyclists and pedestrians.

5. Projects of the Committee discussed

No projects were discussed.

6. Other business and announcements

- The next meeting of the APC CPC is scheduled to be on Tuesday January 24 at 7:00 pm in the Grand Prairie Room of the Tippecanoe Office Building.
- The next meeting of this committee is was scheduled for March 9, but due to conflicts for Curt on that date and March 2, and the following Thursday being during Purdue's Spring Break, **the next meeting of this committee will be rescheduled for Thursday March 23, 2017 at 6:00 pm.**
- The APC technical traffic committee meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month at 2PM and the WL traffic commission meets third Tuesday of each month at 5PM. The Technical Traffic Committee meets in Board of Works room in Lafayette city hall and the WL traffic commission meets in the WL Public Library.

7. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:05 pm

These minutes were submitted to the WLBPC website on March 22, 2017 by Curt Ashendel