



West Lafayette Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Minutes of Meeting held Thursday July 11, 2019 6:00 PM
Board Room, West Lafayette Public Library

Present: Curt Ashendel (presiding), Stewart Frescas and Marcus Smith

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

2. **Corrections were requested for the minutes** of the previous meeting (May 9, 2019) which were posted to the WLBPCC web site (<http://www.westlafayettebikeped.org/Committee/Minutes.html>) and also provided at this meeting. No corrections were noted in the meeting.

3. News of developments since the last meeting

- a. The June quarterly meeting of the APC's Citizens Participation Committee was cancelled due to the vacancy in the position of the Assistant Director for Transportation Planning. The APC plans to hold the next meeting as Scheduled in September (see agenda item #6.)
- b. The Wabash Riverfest will be held by WREC (Wabash River Enhancement Corporation) at Tapawingo Park, Riehle Plaza, and Meyers Pedestrian Bridge on Saturday July 13. Most events are free. Many events and activities for all ages. Cycling related activities include WRCC organized rides on the Wabash Heritage Trail (2.5 mile rides) and a Bike Rodeo at the Skating rink. There will be a 5K run/walk on the Wabash Heritage Trail at 8am (registration fee) and a kids run (free) at 9am. Nick Harby will lead a couple of Nature walks. For a full list of activities, schedule, and map, see the Wabash Riverfest website at <http://wabashriverfest.com/>
- c. Assessment of 2019 Bike Month (May) and Bike to Work Day (May 17) events and thoughts and ideas about next year. There was more coordination among Cities and Lead Groups as well as more publicity than in the past years, but at the B2WDay event and Bikes Count (held in April), there were approximately the same number and same participants as in the recent past years. The new Safe Cycling talk prepared by Marcus did not draw an audience. The idea for a City-organized bike ride around the City ("Circle the City" Ride) was not implemented this year, but may be next year with considerable planning needed for the inaugural event. It may need to be split into two parts held at different times or days.
- d. The proposed ordinance (19-13) entitled "An Ordinance to Protect Bicycle Riders" was presented for its first reading at the WL City Council July 1 meeting. Prior to discussion of and voting on the first reading of the ordinance, it was amended. Though there were few public comments (three for it and two against it), the amended proposal was passed unanimously. To become law it must be passed on its second reading at the next meeting of the Council on August 5. Cyclists are encouraged to attend the August City Council meeting (Monday August 5 at 6:30) to speak in favor of this proposal at its second reading.
- e. Discussion of Salisbury Street trails concept, which is in the predesign conceptual discussion phase. Marcus presented the scope and timing as being between the new recreation center in Cumberland Park and the intersection of Grant and Northwestern Ave. It would be along Salisbury and Grant and would be constructed as soon as possible (bids in February) and be completed when the rec center is

scheduled to be completed, which is by the end of 2020. The original concept of a trail will be expensive. An alternative that would be less costly would be to leave the existing sidewalks and modify the road to add a two lane, bidirectional protected cycle lane on the west side. Due to issues with INDOT, the intersection of Salisbury and Sagamore Parkway would not get the protected bike lane for some time. This was discussed and there was some sentiment that separate Cyclist and Pedestrian facilities would be better than a trail. The protected bicycle path would be more accommodating to novice riders, including very young children while offering speeds/stops comparable to the current bike lanes for commuter cyclists.

- f. eScooters are back in West Lafayette: Marcus reported that two applications for eScooter provisioning were received from Gotcha and Spin and that both were accepted by the City. Spin eScooters were already in place while the Gotcha eScooters were still to arrive. Specific parking spots are required but made available on sidewalks and edge of trails. This appears to be going well so far.
- g. Construction updates from Marcus: New sidewalk is currently being added to Meridian east of Grant. Federal funds (\$180K) will be used for adding sidewalk all along Elm, on Ravinia, and along Riley (between Ravinia and Salisbury) is tied up in red tape. Construction may begin this fall. In the budget is new sidewalk and trail along Lindberg (between Northwestern and Salisbury) and also sidewalk and trail on North Yeager (north of Sagamore Parkway).
- h. Status of Bicycle Friendly Community application: Marcus reported that he is very close to completing preparation of the application for submission and expects to file on August 8 assuming the ordinance passes City Council on August 5.

4. Open forum for problems and ideas for new actions

None were reported.

5. Projects of the Committee discussed

None were discussed

6. Other business and announcements

- The next meeting of the APC CPC is scheduled to be on Wednesday September 11 at 5:45 pm in the Grand Prairie Room of the Tippecanoe Office Building.
- The next meeting of this committee is was scheduled for September 12, 2019 at 6:00pm. However, Curt will be unable to hold the meeting that day and it was discussed whether to move the date by a week or have it be chaired by someone else. It was considered best by those present to move it a week.
- 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 7:15 pm

These minutes were submitted to the WLBPC website on September 17, 2019 by Curt Ashendel