

Fairhope Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: November 5, 2020

In attendance:

Chris Riley, Co-Chairperson, Bill Hall, Co-Chairperson/Secretary, Gary Gover, Robert Brown, Council Liaison, Guests: Michelle Melton, BCTB

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 4:03 PM.

Review/Approve Meeting Minutes: The October 2020 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Bicycle Friendly & Safe Community Application: Due to the amount of research work and staff time required to complete the application, the committee agreed that a realistic goal would be to apply by the August 5, 2021 deadline. This will give ample time to ensure the application contains all the required elements. It might also allow the committee to explore upgrades that would help the city score higher on the evaluation.

Pedestrian & Bicycle Committee website updates: Bill presented the final version of the updated website content. The final version was approved. Bill will forward it to Jessica Walker and she will get it to the City Website Manager.

City Sponsored All Committee Workshop: No update at this time on status of the workshop.

Fels Ave to Pier Ave Sidewalk Expansion Project: Robert said the expansion of the sidewalk had been approved in concept by the City Council and that Richard Johnson would develop the formal plan for the changes. Due to the physical design of the existing sidewalk, the committee agreed that a barrier type system might be appropriate depending upon the existing traffic lane width.

The Committee Needs Three Additional Members: Gary presented Michelle Melton's application to the committee. The committee unanimously approved Michelle's appointment to the committee. Bill will send a request to Lisa for inclusion of the appointment on the next City Council agenda.

P&B Committee Plan to Work with Public Works on Paving and Sidewalk Projects: A discussion of how to get the Committee involved in paving and sidewalk projects at an early stage was held. Chris will contact Richard Johnson to determine how this can be accomplished. Additionally, a list of specific items that need improvement (i.e. installation of ADA access ramps on crosswalks, pedestrian crossings, signage, signals, and safety, and proposed bicycle rack locations is found in the "Wish List" file on the Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee Google drive.

Incorporating the wish list items into proposed projects would enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety and accessibility throughout Fairhope.

Next phase of recently approved bike racks: No update on this item.

Re-installation of De La Mare racks at East/West locations: The Racks on the West end of De La Mare have not been re-installed. This will be forwarded to Richard.

NPS Survey update: No update on this item.

Wayfinding Signage update: On hold pending discussion with New Mayor.

“Open Forum” discussion of any topics not on the agenda:

Inviting Mayor Sherry Sullivan to the December 1, 2020 meeting: Chris will invite Mayor Sullivan to the next meeting to introduce her to the committee. We ask that all members attend. Additionally, we would like to develop a consolidated list of questions/concerns that we, as a committee, have and to ask her to support our future projects. One project will be the Bicycle Friendly Community application completion. The application will require city staff time. Bill will estimate how much staff time will be required so that when we meet with the Mayor we can get her approval to use city staff hours. Also, we will ask her about the city’s budget for P&B Projects.

2020/2021 Street Paving/Striping Projects: Gary noted that he has determined that many of the streets on the Paving/Striping Projects list do not have stop lines or crosswalks. Gary will share with Robert and it will be an item on the Mayor Discussion Topics List.

Lack of Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) between City and other agencies concerning maintaining, marking, and cleaning the Eastern Shore Trail (EST): Gary said he was not able to locate any MOUs between the City and other agencies/organizations to ensure that the EST is maintained. Michelle said she will contact Joey Nunnally, County Engineer with Baldwin County to see if there is an MOU concerning the maintenance of the EST.

Kirkman Lane/Liberty Street intersection grade: Gary said that Kirkman Lane has an extremely steep grade where it intersects Liberty Street. Since Kirkman Lane is on the list to be paved this year or next, is there any requirement that the grade be made ADA accessible? The committee will ask Richard if there is a “Grandfather” clause in ADA for such steep grades where they were at this grade prior to the implementation of ADA.

Fairhope’s Complete Streets Resolution/Policies: Bill was not able to locate any documentation concerning the implementation of the Complete Streets Resolution in 2009. Bill will contact Richard Johnson for this information.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 4pm.

Meeting adjourned at 4:54 PM.