

**EAU CLAIRE  
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**Meeting of July 19, 2016**

The meeting was chaired by Aaron Salmon in the City Council Chambers and called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Aaron Salmon, Dick Johnston, Kirk Jansen, Martin Goettl, Dan May, Marian Ritland,

**Members Absent:** Luke Hoppe, Catherine Lee, Nathan Ruland, Dave Bohlinger

**Staff Present:** Leah Ness, Pat Ivory

**Visitors Present:** Catherine Emmanuelle

**Minutes.** The minutes from the June 21, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

**1. Discussion of Commission Roles and Responsibilities.** The Commission continued their discussion about their roles and responsibilities as set forth in Chapter 2.66 and also discussed the proposed changes recommended by the Advisory Committee on Appointments related to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission. The Appointments Committee reviewed the status of all of the City's boards and commissions and suggested changes to many of the groups. The recommendations for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission are to reduce the Commission membership from ten persons to seven persons, not add a City Council representative to the Commission, and that the Commission review its mission and responsibilities as listed in the ordinance that created the Commission.

The Commission discussed the purpose and intent and duties and responsibilities sections of the ordinance. They felt that the sections outlined their duties and responsibilities quite well, and that their charge was clearly defined. They stressed the importance of providing input to staff and the City Council on public facility and street improvements in order to better implement the recommendations of the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. They also felt that this was within the scope of their responsibilities as set forth in the ordinance. They added that and educational and encouragement efforts and developing policies for the City on such topics as placement and design of crosswalks were also important roles of the Commission.

As discussed at the June meeting regarding the recommendation to reduce the membership of the Commission, Commission members expressed disappointment at the proposed reduction in the membership on the Commission. They stated that the larger Commission membership provides for a greater knowledge base and diverse backgrounds for discussions and input. It also provides more people to assist in education and advocacy programs. In addition, they did not feel that a membership of ten persons created additional work for staff.

They also discussed the issue of having a Council member on the Commission, noting that they had been recommending this to the City Manager and City Council for the past several years. Most of the Commission members noted that having a Council member would improve communication between the Commission and Council. It would also re-enforce the importance of the Commission

within the community by having a Council member serve on the Commission. It was noted that there could be some drawbacks to having a Council member serve on the Commission, but for the most part, the benefits outweighed any negatives. Two Commission members discussed whether the timing was correct to request a City Council member on the Commission, noting that possibly this request should be delayed until the citizen membership issue is resolved.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Marian Ritland moved to recommend that the existing membership of ten persons on the Commission be retained for the reasons discussed. Martin Goettl seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

Marian Ritland moved to recommend that the City Council consider adding a Council person to the Commission. Kirk Jansen seconded the motion. The motion carried with Kirk Jensen, Dick Johnston and Aaron Salmon voting yes, Martin Goettl and Marian Ritland voting no, and Dan May abstaining.

The Commission directed the chairperson to send a letter to the City Manager and City Council regarding the action taken.

**2. Discussion of 2016 Work Program and Budget.** The Commission continued their discussion regarding projects and activities for 2016, which included a review of the estimated costs for the various projects. Pat Ivory provided an overview of the approved expenditures to date including those approved at the June meeting.

Pat Ivory stated that he had talked to Phil Fieber about a third bicycle repair station. Phil indicated that the two existing stations have been well received and felt a third station would be beneficial. Phil and Pat had discussed three possible locations including Owen Park, the DNR trail pass station on Short Street, and along the trail in the north portion of the City. Pat noted that the Owen Park location could be installed yet this year, whereas, the other two locations would require additional planning and site preparation. The Commission suggested that Pat talk with Phil to see if his department would be interested in cost sharing for the Owen Park location and that the other two sites be studied for 2017 installation. Pat noted that the Friends of the Chippewa Valley Trail should be contacted about assisting with the Short Street site.

Leah Ness informed the Commission that she was contacted by the Water Street BID about the possibility of installing a bicycle corral in the street along the north side of the 400 block of Water Street. The Commission currently has a bicycle corral located in front of the library and that may be moving to a parking space along Eau Claire Street in front of the library.

Pat noted that he had been attempting to contact the Wisconsin Bicycle Federation regarding their program to arrange billboard ads promoting bicycle safety and bicycle encouragement, but was unable to make contact with a staff person. He will continue to reach out to the group.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Marian Ritland moved that the Commission proceed with the purchase of a bicycle corral for Water Street if the Water Street BID agrees to the on-street location in the 400 block of Water Street. Kirk Jensen seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

3. **Discussion of 5-Year CIP.** This item was postponed until the August meeting.

4. **Future Items and Updates.**

- a) **Bicycling on Sidewalk Ordinance.** Pat Ivory provided an update of the proposed amendment to the Downtown bicycling on sidewalk ordinance. Pat indicated that the final draft of the ordinance was being prepared by the City Attorney's office.
- b) **Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update.** Pat Ivory noted that he was adding the proposed changes to the bicycle routes from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan as discussed by the Commission into the City's GIS basemap. This would be discussed further at the August meeting.
- c) **Farmers Market Bicycle Rack.** The Commission discussed the citizen inquiry about the placement of one of the bicycle racks at the Farmers Market being too close to the curb to allow bicycles to be parked on both sides of the rack. Leah Ness indicated that she would talk with the Parks Division staff. They also noted that future bicycle rack purchases of the City should meet the design standards adopted by the City.
- d) **2015 CIP Updates.** Leah Ness updated the Commission on the bicycle boulevard and bicycle box projects.
- e) **Water Street Bicycle Racks.** Leah Ness noted that she would be meeting with a representative of the Water Street BID to look at potential locations for bicycle racks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine Lee", written over a circular stamp or seal.

Catherine Lee, Secretary