

**EAU CLAIRE  
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting of February 21, 2017**

The meeting was chaired by Aaron Salmon in the North Conference Room and called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Aaron Salmon, Dick Johnston, Marian Ritland, Kirk Jansen, Scott Kmetz

**Members Absent:** Catherine Lee, Keith Daniels

(There are currently two vacant positions on the Committee.)

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

**Visitors Present:** Jeremy Gragert

**Minutes.** The minutes from the January 17, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

**1. Update on BPAC Ordinance Revisions.** Pat Ivory updated the Committee on the recent changes to the BPAC ordinance that were approved by the City Council. The revisions change the name of the group to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee and its membership to nine persons. The purpose and intent statement was revised to reference the City's Comprehensive Plan, Council's Strategic Plan, and the City Manager's work plan. The duties and responsibilities section was changed to reflect the requirement of drafting an annual work plan for the Committee that would be approved by the City Council.

**2. Recommendation on 2017 Committee Work Plan.** The Committee continued their discussion regarding their 2017 work plan. Pat Ivory noted that the items requested to be added at the January meeting had been incorporated into the work plan. He also noted that the formatting was revised as directed by the City Manager. The Commission noted several minor wording changes or additions to the work plan. They also discussed the process for public notification for street projects within neighborhoods and noted that it would be beneficial to have a process where the general public could receive notifications of neighborhood or area informational meetings. The Commission indicated that they would like to discuss this further at a future meeting.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Marian Ritland moved to approve the work plan with the changes noted by the Committee. Kirk Jansen seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

**3. Discussion of Pedestrian Rights Education.** Leah Ness informed the Committee that she had been contacted by a person owning a business Downtown that expressed concerns about pedestrian safety and motorist awareness of pedestrian rights when crossing streets. Leah asked if the Committee would be interested in collaborating with groups such as DECI, the Police Department, City/County Health Department, and possibly the UWEC to develop some type of educational/media program to address the issue. It was noted that the issue was not only related to the Downtown area, but also a city-wide concern. The Committee expressed an interest in participating and it was suggested that Committee members research the City of Madison's BPAC website and other

outreach programs to review their efforts regarding pedestrian education. They will discuss this further at the March meeting.

4. **Other items.**

- a) **Commission vacancy.** The Commission discussed the two current vacancies on the Commission.
- b) **Update on 2017 street projects.** Leah provided an update of several of the street projects planned for 2017. This included work on State Street from Hamilton Avenue south to Westover Road, which is a joint City/town project. Leah noted that the project was necessary to complete utility work. The plan is to replace the roadway to its current configuration that will include painted edge lines. She also discussed the reconstruction of London Road from Sessions Street south to Damon Street. The City had anticipated including bicycle lanes along this section, but has determined that the right-of-way is too narrow. Alternatives discussed included adding sharrows or edge lines. The Committee discussed the alternatives and felt that since bicycle lanes exist to the north of Sessions Street, that both edge lines and sharrows should be considered. If only one treatment is possible, then the edge lines would be the preference. The updated Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan will most likely identify this street as a primary bicycle route.
- c) **Update on Bicycle Share Program.** Aaron Salmon indicated that the University still appears to be interested in a bicycle share program and he would continue to be in contact with interested organizations. As noted at the previous meeting, the Committee's role in such a program most likely would be to assist in coordinating interested groups, but this could change as the program becomes more defined.
- d) **Reports to staff on safety issues or concerns.** Several Commission members noted that the green paint for the Keith Street bicycle box was very faded and questioned whether the contractor could be required to repaint it. They also discussed the City's street sweeping program and whether the City prioritized the streets for sweeping. If so, could the bicycle routes be included as factor in prioritizing the streets. It was noted that the Damon Street pedestrian tunnel was flooded this past weekend and pedestrians and bicyclists had to cross Highway 93 at grade. There are no pedestrian walk signals or crosswalks at this intersection.
- e) **Future agenda items.** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by:



Catherine Lee, Secretary