

**EAU CLAIRE  
BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting of September 19, 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, Scott Kmetz, Andy Becker, Kirk Jansen, Catherine Lee, Eric Nelson, Brian Jenquine, Marian Ritland

**Members Absent:** None

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

**Visitors Present:** Adam Taylor, Mike Passint

**Minutes.** The minutes from the August 15, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

**1. Presentation on Cycling Without Age Grant.** Mike Passint, from Grace Lutheran Communities was present at the meeting to discuss a proposed grant application to the Otto Bremer Trust to purchase four rickshaws that would be used at their facilities to provide bicycle rides for their elderly residents. He noted the importance getting the elderly outside and participating in activities such as bicycle rides. He stated that the Cycling Without Age program started in 2012 in Denmark and there are now 14 programs in Wisconsin. The grant application would be for \$35,000 and Grace Lutheran Communities is looking for support and partnerships relating to the grant. They hope to initiate the program in May, 2018, if the grant is approved.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Marian Ritland moved that the Committee Chairperson send a letter of support for the grant application. Kirk Jansen seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

**2. Discussion of Complete Streets Program.** The Committee continued their discussion regarding the Complete Streets program. Leah Ness noted that the subcommittee had a conference call with Mr. Jack Zabrowski from La Crosse and she reviewed comments from the conference call. Suggestions from each subcommittee member will be incorporated into a draft letter summarizing BPAC's position that will eventually be forwarded to the City Manager and Director of the Engineering Department. The Committee then reviewed a draft vision statement and discussed several changes. The subcommittee will finalize the vision statement and letter and report back to BPAC.

**3. Discussion of Regional Bicycle Routes.** The Committee reviewed a map showing the proposed routes for a regional bicycle route system. A subcommittee of BPAC has been working with West Central Regional Planning Commission to develop the system that would be patterned after Wausau's routes. Pat Ivory discussed the concept of the regional system and

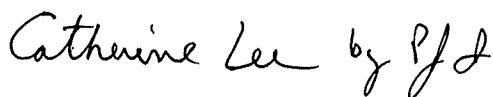
the importance of interconnecting these routes with other jurisdictions in the Chippewa Valley. The routes within the City of Eau Claire would overlay the City's bicycle route system. Once routes are finalized, they will be numbered and corresponding route signs will be installed along the routes.

**4. Other items.**

- a) **Update on 2017 Street Projects.** Leah provided an update of several of the street projects currently under construction; also noting that bicycle racks were recently installed along Barstow, Wisconsin and Galloway Streets. Leah also noted that she would be reviewing information related to the recent traffic study for the Harding Avenue Hill. A link to a survey questionnaire is still available on-line until the end of the month. The Committee asked Leah to send out the link to each of the members.
- b) **Bicycle Plan Update.** Pat Ivory informed the Committee that staff would be placing the draft bicycle plan route update on the City's website to obtain input from the community. Committee members suggested contacting Volume One and the neighborhood contact persons to inform the public that input is being requested.
- c) **Reports to staff on safety issues or concerns.** Concerns noted included:
  - Increased numbers of people bicycling on the sidewalks Downtown and along Water Street;
  - The crosswalk at the top of the Harding Street hill near Lee Street is difficult to cross for pedestrians;
  - Two recent traffic accidents; one pedestrian-related and one bicycle-related were mentioned. Leah indicated that when information becomes available about the incidents, she will share that information with the Committee.
- d) **Future agenda items.** Future agenda topics include: a status review of the Committee's annual work program, status of obtaining the easement for the Valmont Avenue bicycle boulevard, and a discussion about the impacts of a new State law regarding a limitation of the use of eminent domain for the acquisition of land for public trail use.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by:



Catherine Lee, Secretary