

EAU CLAIRE BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting of March 16, 2021

Members Present: Bill Berg, Kyle Brouillard, Doug Dobson, Ann Francis, JJ Henricksen, Scott Kmetz, Scott Larson, Ellen Sorenson

Members Absent: Aaron Salmon

Staff Present: Trevor Wittwer, Ned Noel, Taylor Graybehl

Visitors Present: Dave Lund

1. Call to Order. Vice chair Ms. Francis called the virtual meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. Approval of February 16, 2020 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Larson moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Brouillard and the motion carried.

3. Open Public Comment Period. Dave Lund, a resident along E Hamilton Avenue, requested about a block and half of sidewalk to be installed on E. Hamilton Avenue from Gateway Drive to Summerfield Drive.

Safety concerns brought up by members included:

- Potholes by the tunnel under 5th Ave. need fixing
- 3rd St. trail entrance north of Selma braille plates need replacing
- State St. snow removal on new stairs to Putnam Trail ice over too often

4. Public Discussions Item 1: Scooter Share Ordinance Review Mr. Wittwer presented the proposed ordinance and asked if there were any issues on number of scooters, timeframes and mph limits, etc. Members were mixed on allowing them on multiuse trails and sidewalks. Some thought allowing them on the trails would be safer than the streets and to help people with disabilities. Separate trails could be established in time if there were busier sections. Members expressed concerns on lack of helmet wearing and inability to enforce rules generally if violated. There were questions on the number of licenses and the renewal license. There were questions on how to classify e-scooters, e-bike and bicycles. Mr. Brouillard suggested that “Revocation or Suspension” be added as in the Parklet Ordinance as a recourse if a Scooter Licensee does not meet their obligations to protect public safety and to prevent a nuisance from developing.

Public Discussions Item 2: Parklet Ordinance Review

Mr. Wittwer presented the Parklet Ordinance draft. It stated only one parking stall can be used and only one per side of a block. Members comments included support for parklets and allowing more per block. There was support for the conditions section to improve enforcement. Mr. Brouillard moved to support the ordinance with adding a higher density per block of parklets allowance. Mr. Dobson seconded and the motion carried.

Public Discussions Item 3: Bicycle & Pedestrian Questionnaire

Members suggested the survey could be posted on social media and spread through other means like neighborhood associations. Mr. Dobson asked questions as to who is the audience and what are the outcomes desired with the survey. Results could be used on maintenance, capital projects, signage, planning and dealing with route barriers like hills. Checkboxes and multiple-choice questions could be used in the survey to expedite responses and the survey could be more balanced adding more pedestrian questions. Ms. Henricksen, Mr. Larson, Ms. Sorenson and Mr. Dobson volunteered to be on a sub-committee for the questionnaire.

Public Discussions Item 4: Skateboard Parking/Racks

The issue was raised at a recent City Council meeting and members were supportive of installing one at the library and near Water Street and Lakeshore Park Skateboard Park and Ann will ask a skateboard business for locations. Mr. Brouillard moved to fund a rack at the library and Mr. Kmetz seconded and the motion carried.

5. Other Business Agenda Items Item #1: Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety – Winter Months

Mr. Larson expressed concerns on getting the City and homeowners to clear corners in a coordinated way for safety and to perhaps use a skid steer brusher to clear corners in a test project. Reminders were suggested on City's social media sites to improve awareness and more enforcement was also suggested. Members wanted people to be active in the winter but the lack of staffing capacity was cited as a problem. The Wintermission route was applauded.

6. Discussion and Direction:

A. Future Agenda Items

- Several items were noted, including: 2021 first quarter crash data, updates on the capital improvement projects, checks on concerts in the park for bicycle valet parking, design standards for parklets, crash data on Barstow St. from one-way to two-way, and to plan for bike week and release the questionnaire at that time.

6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m. by Mr. Brouillard and seconded by Mr. Larson.

Submitted by:



JJ Henricksen, Secretary