

**CITY OF ALBANY
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION
City Hall, Periwinkle Room
333 Broadalbin SW
Tuesday, December 14, 2010
12 Noon**

MINUTES

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| Commission Members Present | Terrance Virnig, Chair (arrived at 12:20); Kelly Albers, Vice Chair; Bill Pintard; Juanita Eggers; Jim Lawrence; Matthew Hasek |
| Commission Members Absent | Tim Siddiqui |
| Staff Present | Jeff Woodward, P.E., Civil Engineer II; Ronald G. Irish, Transportation Systems Analyst; Karen Williams, PW Projects Coordinator |

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Albers called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 12, 2010, meeting were unanimously approved following a motion by Pintard and a second by Hasek.

REPORT: VETERANS DAY PARADE (Bill Pintard)

Pintard reported there was good participation in the parade. There were approximately 25-30 people participate. Besides Commission members, participants included cyclists – City Manager Wes Hare, Jim Mumford from Corvallis, tandem riders Mark & Del Siddall, 6-7 students from North Albany Middle School, a teacher and parent – and 15 fit walkers. Eggers reported that the Fit Walkers enjoyed being participants and want to be involved again next year.

Pintard said some suggestions for improvements for next year are to start preparations earlier; not to have everyone show up so early, just as long as someone reports in for the group at the time specified; and to sign up for the parade earlier to get a better place in the lineup. Although 300 maps were distributed along the parade route, Albers suggested they have more maps to hand out as they ran out early.

BIKE PARK (Bessie Johnson)

City Councilor Bessie Johnson was in attendance to update the Commission on the status of the Albany Bike Park project and ask the Commission for their advice and possible support to continue work towards having a bike park in Albany. Meetings for building a bike park began in March 2008 and Pintard said he had attended several of the group's first meetings to offer support to the project. Johnson reported that the kids involved in the project were very excited, but the meetings have gone on so long, enthusiasm has fallen. At one point during this time, the Council granted permission for cyclist to ride in the skate park, causing the bike park project to lose momentum and presentations planned to present the project to civic organizations never happened. Johnson said she feels there are enough businesses interested in helping to fund or donate materials and services for the project, and feels if the project doesn't move forward, a real injustice has been done to our youth who had worked so hard. Johnson added that they have a site specified for the project, and shared preliminary designs for the layout of the bike park. Irish added that a BMX track would fit in with the criteria for Bike Friendly City status. Lawrence said the type of materials used will make a difference in how many months a year the bike park can be used.

ACTION: Pintard made a motion that the Commission supports the development of a bike park for BMX bikers in Albany. Lawrence seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

BIKE FRIENDLY CITY: COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS (Bill Pintard)

Pintard stated that the parade participation gave a chance to advertise Albany's Bike Friendly City status.

Pintard said that no further action on the bike loan program, discussed at the last meeting, has been pursued because of the expense to set up and maintain such a program. Lawrence discussed an automated bicycle-user program where a person would use a credit card to rent a bike, and Pintard explained that expense is again a deterrent to setting up such a program. Pintard felt the program has merit and shouldn't be dismissed.

INTERSECTION ISSUES

Lawrence discussed State plans for Interstate 5 and said the overpass at Viewcrest between Jefferson and Santiam Overpasses will be eliminated and there is a proposal that Century Drive be extended north to Jefferson Highway as a bike/pedestrian trail. Several other proposals for bike/pedestrian facilities being discussed are an overcrossing south of Highway 20 at 21st Street or at the south end of airport. Pintard and Lawrence suggested going to the State website to look at the proposals at:

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION2/I-5_SouthJefferson_PublicInvolvement.shtml.

These are currently in the planning stages, and funding will be sought in the year 2015.

Lawrence said he is concerned about the ODOT crossing signal at Geary and 9th for pedestrians crossing northbound, explaining that the turn signal and walk light comes on the same time. Irish said last week he talked to ODOT about that intersection, and they are looking into it. Pintard added the problem with the turn signal at 34th and Pacific has the same problem, and Eggers confirmed the problem. Irish explained that the 34th and Pacific intersection should be more easily fixed by ODOT setting the pedestrian light to activate first before the green turn light activates giving pedestrians the priority, but the Geary and 9th light, because of the dynamics of the intersection, is more difficult.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Lawrence mentioned that the state of Oregon received less federal stimulus money for high speed rail than Washington and California because they had their rail system plans in place.

Pintard explained that there is a holiday bike ride this weekend, which is 11 miles long and starts at South Albany Pool and ends at his home where there will be refreshments.

Irish said Ride Oregon is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in August with a ride that will begin and end in Albany.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

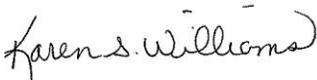
NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting has been scheduled for January 11, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. in the Periwinkle Room.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Williams
PW Project Coordinator