

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

MINUTES

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Virnig called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the August 10, 2010, meeting were unanimously approved following a motion by Pintard and a second by Albers.

FINAL REPORT: 2010 CRITERIUM

Pintard and Virnig reported on the second annual Albany Criterium held in downtown Albany on Saturday, August 15th. Pintard said some of the sponsors for the Oregon Bicycle Racing Association's Criterium were Samaritan Health Services and Central Willamette Credit Union, and was presented by the Albany Downtown Association, Albany Visitors Association, and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission. This is the third time Albany has hosted this event. There were 150 riders of all ages in nine classes from the Masters to Kiddy Kilo. There were cash prizes, top places received metals, and participants received a free meal at a local restaurant. Pintard explained that the Championship event only stays in one community for two years, so next year Albany can host an event, but it wouldn't be the Championship.

ACTION: No action.

REPORT: SEPT 2010 BIKE COMMUTE CHALLENGE

Virnig reported that his daughter had sent out information and brochures and asked for feedback, but didn't get anything. Woodward suggested that we save the "Breathe" flyers to use next year as there were no dates or specific information regarding this particular year's Bike Commute Challenge, and also suggested that this item be put on the April agenda to have more time to plan ahead for next year's event.

Pintard commented that the Bike Commute website requires a password. Albers said that you can get on the website to see what teams are signed up and suggested that Commission members check the website at the end of the month to see the teams that are listed.

ACTION: No action. There will be a final report at next month's meeting.

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LEGAL RIGHTS HANDOUTS

Pintard provided a supply of business-card-sized bicycle and pedestrian cards entitled, “Know Your Legal Rights – Summary of Oregon Laws.” These cards are available for order from the lawyers at Swanson, Thomas, & Coon in Portland. Albers suggested the cards be distributed to the public at events such as the Bicycle Corral next year. Siddiqui suggested the information be available at the location of the bike racks, and Albers added that they should be placed at the City’s Parks and Recreation counter, and the pedestrian cards at fitness clubs.

Pintard also shared with the Commission paperback books about the laws for pedestrians and bicyclists, and Action Pamphlet #1, which contains information on citizen’s arrests. Classes on these topics are offered free by the attorneys.

Irish checked on the pedestrian laws and reported that a pedestrian walking on a sidewalk can walk in either direction, but on a road with shoulders or bike lanes, they must walk against traffic unless on a divided highway, and then they must walk to the right. A pedestrian walking on the shoulder of a road with no sidewalk must be the one to yield.

ACTION: No action.

BIKE FRIENDLY CITY: COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

Virnig reported the Commission’s Bike Friendly City sub-committee met at Ciddici’s a couple of times this past month to discuss ways to move the City forward in upgrading the City’s bronze Bike Friendly City status. Siddiqui gave a report saying that the sub-committee discussed their concern about the lack of community interest in riding bikes and incentives to encourage more riders. An idea discussed was having bikes available for use at locations throughout the City where a person could pick up a bicycle to ride in one location and drop the bicycle off at another location. Problems with this are that the bikes would be abused or stolen; however, ideas presented were the bikes could possibly come from the Police Department, with little initial cost to the City, and would all be painted a certain color and converted to single speeds.

Virnig asked Woodward if this type of a program would fit under the established duties and responsibilities of the Commission as adopted by City Council. Woodward answered that the Commission could advocate for this type of program, but the Commission could not take the action. Siddiqui then asked what department in the City would be responsible for this type of a program if it were to be managed by the City. Irish said that it would depend on how the program was set up, but felt that it would either be the Parks and Recreation Department or Public Works. Irish said it would need to be a Council decision. Virnig pointed out that there would be liability involved.

Pintard said he had researched on the internet and found information on Bicycle Sharing in Wikipedia and presented a list of the information to Commission members (attached).

ACTION: No action.

INTERSECTION ISSUES

Virnig mentioned that the loops at intersections not working to trip the traffic lights are still a concern. Irish said that the City will need to fix all City-controlled intersections (approximately one-third of all intersection within the City), and then ODOT can be approached to change out their intersections. With new City street projects going out for bid, the City will obtain loop detection symbols for bicycles in coordination with the project. Pintard said an article could be put in *City Bridges* regarding the new loop markings.

ACTION: No action.

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COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Albers mentioned that the ditch at the end of Patrick Lane in North Albany, where pedestrians use a path through the ditch onto Gibson Hill, needs to have a culvert installed and be backfilled to allow pedestrians to cross the ditch there. Irish said that it will need to be coordinated with Benton County. Irish also explained that the new sidewalk project on Gibson Hill that the City has planned stops just short of that area.

It was also reported that the new traffic circle at Knox Butte may need more signage for the safety of the students from Bridal Springs area crossing there.

OTHER BUSINESS

Two interested citizens arrived during the meeting and said they were there to just observe and listen to the proceedings. The Commission thanked them for their interest.

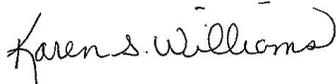
NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting has been scheduled for October 12, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. in the Periwinkle Room.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Williams
PW Project Coordinator