



**CITY OF COLUMBIA
BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)**

August 10, 2020

4:30 PM

**Virtual meeting using conferencing technology
Columbia, SC**

**EMILY BEASLEY • PAMELA BYNOE-REED • SUSAN J. FORREST • CHRISTINA GALARDI
FRITZ HAMER • CHASE KEIBLER • GEORGE KOKOLIS • BETSY NEWMAN • CHARLES ZACHARY PIPPIN
RIP SANDERS • RACHEL THOMASON • BARTON WALRATH • CYNTHIA WATSON • CHRYS ZOURAS**

In attendance: Barton Walwrath Co Chair, Cynthia Watson Co Chair, Emily Beasley, Susan Forrest, Christina Galardi, Fritz Hamer, Betsy Newman, Zach Pippin, Pamela Bynoe-Reed,

Absent: Chase Keibler (excused), George Kokolis, Rip Sanders (excused), Rachel Thomason-John (excused), Chrys Zouras

Staff present: John Fellows, Shane Shaughnessy, Leigh DeForth, Andrew Livengood

Community members present: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Walrath called the meeting to order at 4:35pm.

Co-Chair Watson joined the call at 4:37pm

Motion: Pamela Bynoe-Reed
To: To approve to accept the agenda.
Second: Zach Pippin
Vote: Unanimous, Motion Carried.

II. REGULAR AGENDA

a. Minutes:

- Approve July 2020 minutes

Motion: Pamela Bynoe-Reed
To: To approve to approve the minutes as submitted
Second: Emily Beasley
Vote: Unanimous, Motion Carried.

b. Updates:

- Report from Co Chairs – Watson and Walrath

Co-Chairman Walrath reviewed the status on the letter to Mayor & Council (sent June 24th) on adaptive strategies, inclusive of: endorsement of pop-up bike lanes in

the change.org petition, and removal of push buttons in high-contact areas. The latter topic went from City Council to David Brewer (City Traffic Engineer), and Mr. Brewer responded that Main Street would already qualify, but there are others that he would look into possibly covering. Co Chairman Walrath indicated that he was waiting for Mr. Brewer to reply to his inquiry about removal of push buttons in the five points area.

Co-Chairman Walrath discussed the Harden and Blossom Street Safety Audits and indicated that he would send the copies he received from Lori Campbell at SCDOT to the entire BPAC group.

- City Planning Update – Fellows

Mr. Fellows reviewed the planning update and spent time talking about the cancellation of all events within the City between now and the end of the year. He discussed options for bike and pedestrian counts and options to promote active transportation activities throughout the Fall. He also addressed questions about Millwood Ave bike lane construction.

c. Outreach Projects

- Bike Month – Fall of 2020 – Outreach Committee

Mr. Fellows indicated all in-person activities could not occur per the City, and the Committee discussed potential outreach and options. Ms. Christina Galardi discussed options for activities for the Fall, including active transportation bingo cards, coordination with schools and other organizations, and coordination with partners such as Blue Bike and the COMET. She also discussed ideas that the projects and initiative committee have been working on related to outreach into communities and empowering neighborhoods to promote walking and biking.

- Bike and Pedestrian Counts Fall 2020 – Shaughnessy

Mr. Shaughnessy noted that the Fall counts would be cancelled, but that staff planned to advertise the importance of counts and count data during September in @ColaCompass social media posts. A partnership with BPAC to advertise this information on their social media platforms was discussed.

d. Strategic Planning

- Break Out Sessions: Subcommittees

Subcommittees broke out into meeting rooms via Zoom from 5:20 to 5:40. The following is a summary from each meeting.

Projects and Initiatives:

Christina Galardi, Betsy Newman, Barton Walrath, Charles Zachary Pippin

Note: that **Fritz Hamer** joined the Projects and Initiatives committee as no other Policy subcommittee members were attending the meeting.

- Based on prior conversations the subcommittee had, the group indicated they hoped to plan the scope of projects or initiatives, and then partner with community outreach to publicize these.

- That being said, there was consensus among the group that as each subcommittee had not shared out their strategic plan, they were unclear as to whether this fit with what the goals of the other two subcommittees.
- They noted that part of the strategic plan had been to work with bike friendly businesses, but they had put this initiative on hold defer to the ColaTown Bike Collective's development of a local bike friendly business program.
- The possibility of following a sidewalk through planning and implementation was also discussed, to both help the subcommittee and the public better understand the process.
- The subcommittee discussed the Penny's plan for sidewalks on Wildwood in Hyatt Park, and the neighborhood's concerns regarding the sidewalk location, as well as Councilman Davis' request to have the neighborhood identify a more desirable location for sidewalks within the neighborhood.
- The subcommittee discussed the differences between Penny projects, City sidewalk projects/funding, and sidewalks on SCDOT streets vs. City streets. Ms. Newman agreed to reach out to the Penny team and Robert Anderson regarding sidewalks.
- Running short on time, the subcommittee indicated they were interested in working with the marketing and outreach subcommittee on at least one of these initiatives to take place in the fall.
- Mr. Pippin suggested that the subcommittee target bike to school programming/facilities, given the shortage of school buses and the request of the superintendent to have parents drive their children to school.
- The subcommittee re-entered the BPAC meeting without further discussion.

Policy:

Fritz Hamer

No report as this committee did not meet as only one member was present.

Marketing:

Pamela Bynoe-Reed, Rachel Thomason, Susan J. Forrest, Emily Beasley, Cynthia Watson

The subcommittee discussed the following:

- Access to Facebook – BPAC Page
- Discuss of update the image and content of the Facebook page
- Discussion of weekly social media posts.
- Discussion of creating themes for each month going forward.
- Discussion of possible themes and topics

- Discussion of finding sponsors within the community to assist with prizes. Discussion included reaching out to REI, other local sporting and hiking stores.
 - Discussion of setting up a time later in the week to continue discussion and coordination.
 - Discussion of how they can help other committees and what can the other committees provide to them.
 - Needs from other subcommittees – provide content.
 - What this subcommittee can provide other subcommittees – help facilitate between a project or a policy and coordinate a marketing element for those projects – being brought in early into the process or discussion.
 - The subcommittee re-entered the BPAC meeting without further discussion.
- Committee Coordination: (Subcommittees come back as a whole) at 5:44pm

Updates from the Projects and Initiatives and Marketing subcommittees were discussed.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were in attendance.

V. ADJOURN

Motion: Betsy Newman
 To: To Adjourn
 Second: Pamela Bynoe-Reed
 Vote: Unanimous, Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:57pm.