



CITY OF COLUMBIA
BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)

January 11, 2021
4:30 PM

Virtual meeting using conferencing technology
Columbia, SC

WILLIAM BAKER • PAMELA BYNOE-REED • CHRISTINA GALARDI
CHASE KEIBLER • GEORGE KOKOLIS • BETSY NEWMAN
RACHEL THOMASON JOHN • BARTON WALRATH • CYNTHIA WATSON • CHRYS ZOURAS

In attendance: William Baker, Pamela Bynoe-Reed, Christina Galardi, George Kokolis, Betsy Newman, Rachel Thomason John, Barton Walrath, Cynthia Watson

Absent: Chase Keibler, Chrys Zouras

Staff: Lucinda Statler, Shane Shaughnessy, Leigh DeForth, Elle Matney

Note: Zachary Pippin submitted his resignation shortly prior to the BPAC meeting on January 11th.

I. CALL TO ORDER- Co-chairs Watson and Baker

Co-Chair Will Baker called the meeting to order at 4:31pm. Lucinda Statler, Planning Administrator, indicated a quorum of members was present.

II. REGULAR AGENDA

a. Minutes:

- Approve December 14, 2020 minutes

Mr. Walrath moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Co-Chair Watson seconded the motion, and the motion was carried by unanimous vote (5-0).

Christina Galardi joined the meeting at 4:32pm

b. Report from Co Chairs

Co-Chair Baker indicated Councilwoman Devine & Councilman Brennan would like to attend next month's meeting. Ms. Statler asked for clarification re: strategic planning and meeting schedule.

Betsy Newman joined the meeting at 4:36pm.

There was further discussion of how the meeting agenda might shift to incorporate an opportunity for Councilwoman Devine and Councilman Brennan to speak to their interest in and goals for the Committee. Ms. Statler suggested placing Council on the agenda early in the meeting, so that strategic planning could carry forward without

Co-Chair Watson congratulated Co-Chair Baker on his election and thanked Mr. Walrath for his service as Co-Chair.

c. City Planning Update – staff

Ms. Statler asked if there were any questions regarding the update she sent out. She noted that during the strategic planning session they can discuss a better meeting date or time for future meetings. There was discussion of the Kimley-Horn doodle poll, and clarification that this was different than the doodle staff would be sending out for the strategic planning meeting.

- Membership openings being posted
- BFC report card 2020

There was brief discussion of the report card and the report card process.

- Strategic Planning meeting- Feb.
 - Survey/committee structure
 - Doodle poll
 - Staff facilitation/agenda for overall BPAC goal setting

Ms. Statler noted that staff had received little feedback on additional survey questions, but in internal discussions had discussed perhaps changing the subcommittee roles, and could consider adding that to the survey prior to the strategic planning meeting.

Pamela Bynoe-Reed joined the meeting at 4:53pm.

There was further discussion regarding subcommittee structure. Ms. Galardi noted that the prior subcommittee structure to consolidate subcommittees into specific roles. There was some discussion of standing committees vs. committees tied to specific events or initiatives. Co-Chair Baker indicated he had solicited comments from individuals on social media regarding how to improve City streets. He received responses regarding speeding, posted road speeds, sidewalk repairs, etc.

George Kokolis left the meeting at 4:59pm.

Ms. Statler reviewed the strategic planning approach, which has traditionally been staff facilitated. She indicated that staff planned to facilitate the group as a whole, but that subcommittee strategic planning could occur subsequent to the meeting. Committee members expressed support for gathering as an entire group. There was some discussion of the amount of time available for strategic planning and Council interaction. The Committee came to the consensus that it would be helpful to hear from Council members in advance of strategic planning, and that at this same meeting, the results to the BPAC member survey could be presented, and hold the actual strategic planning meeting at the following meeting. There was some discussion as to what questions the Committee might ask of Council. Questions might include what the Council members expectations of BPAC might be; where the City is as it relates to BPAC, Board/Commission meetings, and amidst the pandemic; and what ideas/expectations BPAC members might have. Ms. Statler noted that as such the February meeting would be held at the regular time, and a doodle poll will be sent out for the March strategic planning meeting.

Mr. Walrath asked if staff could reach out for an update on the SCDOT Road Safety Audit process and where it was. Ms. Statler noted she would reach out to SCDOT for an update. Mr. Walrath also asked about the design of the canal, and if any updates had been received from Gregory Tucker. Ms. Statler indicated she would also be happy to follow up with Mr. Tucker accordingly.

d. Committee Reports:

Projects and Initiatives (Christina Galardi, Betsy Newman, Barton Walrath)

Mr. Walrath noted he'd be happy to respond to any questions about the subcommittee report. He highlighted two projects that had been completed – the Walk Bike Bingo program and the Experience Millwood effort. Co-Chair Baker indicated he did receive feedback from community members on providing more bicycle and pedestrian safety-related education. Ms. Newman had suggested developing area art walks in partnership with One Columbia, and there was some discussion regarding what this might look like, inclusive of wayfinding signage with distances denoted. Ms. Newman clarified that this was more of a trail map that could denote distances between and waypoints of public art in neighborhoods. She had also considered a tree or garden-oriented walk as an option as well. There was some discussion of potential community partners, such as Columbia Green and the City's Tree & Appearance Commission.

Ms. Bynoe-Reed reminded the Committee that she could offer up some of the COMET intern's time to provide services for social media postings. Co-Chair Watson noted she anticipated scheduling a subcommittee meeting in the next couple of weeks.

Ms. Newman noted that with the map idea, that someone would actually need to create the maps. She noted that she could ask some artists.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Spring events/ COVID update
 - Public Space/public life counts
 - Bike Month in May

There was some discussion around the timing of Bike Month. It appears that the League of American Bicyclists is still planning on celebrating Bike Month in May of 2021.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered.

V. ADJOURN

Co-Chair Watson made a motion to adjourn, and Co-Chair Baker seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:49pm.