

1. CALL TO ORDER: (4:05)

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Barkalow, Billings, Brandt, Carolan, Neilly, Prouty, Scott, Thayer, Whyte

Guests: Greg Arundale, Craig Rairdin, Seth Staashelm

3. MINUTES:

a. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – March 26, 2018

Motion by Thayer, seconded by Neilly, to approve the minutes.

All 'Ayes', minutes approved.

4. BIKE TO WORK WEEK PLANNING:

a. Schedule

The Committee reviewed the schedule. Mr. Arundale noted that there was not a link to the CMPO ride on the flyer. Billings noted that at the time, she had not received the link for registration from AARP. Whyte noted that he liked the idea of adding the link but anticipated the registration to be full by the time the ride happened, regardless of the additional link being added to the flyer. Prouty and Brandt noted that they found the link with a simple internet search.

b. Special Events

Barkalow asked if there would be police escort for all the scheduled rides. Billings noted she had confirmed for the Ride of Silence, but not the rest of the rides, she will check with Officer Daubs.

c. Community / Business Involvement

Billings noted that she had sent the flyer to the local bike/trail clubs and the large businesses in town. She encouraged the Committee to take a flyer and post where they saw fit.

5. MARION HOTEL/MOTEL GRANT APPLICATION

Billings noted that the annual Hotel/Motel grant was due in the coming weeks and asked the Committee if they had recommendations for an application. She noted that last year the Committee suggested a community attraction poster but did not want to duplicate the work that the Communications Manager was doing. In previous years, the Committee applied for bike racks, benches, and fix-it stations for in the parks or along the trails.

Brandt suggested a trail/sidewalk connection from 5th Avenue to the Grant Wood Trail in the 2900 block, noting that there were no sidewalk connections from south of 5th Avenue. 31st Street has gaps as well. Billings wondered where the sidewalk gaps were, and how well connectivity would happen with 5th Avenue. The Committee discussed a number of things related to the connectivity of the neighborhood and decided that it was best to place it on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

Prouty suggested temporary signage (Walk Your City) for destinations in or close to the Uptown. Carolan noted that if the selection committee knew that the city was already planning for wayfinding signage in the Uptown, this project might not score well.

Whyte suggested a brochure of the mountain biking trails in or near Marion. He noted that mountain bikers tend to travel to find these destinations, which leads to tourism and hotel stays. Billings wondered if this would be a project best left to the Metro wide tourism group because Mount Trashmore and Beverly Park have nice single-track trails as well. Whyte noted that with GoCedarRapids no longer in business he had not had luck with the new tourism group. Prouty noted that she would reach out to them.

Neilly suggested creating t-shirts that could be sold that highlight Marion attractions. He noted he would rather have a t-shirt than a brochure. Brandt noted that sometimes t-shirts can be difficult to hand away, let alone sell them. Billings also questioned the tie back to the bike or pedestrian component of the Committee when the discussion had been more around an Uptown marketing item.

Prouty suggested a bike powered blender, or a bike that lights up as you pedal. Thayer noted that she liked the idea of the bike blender. Billings noted she liked the light-up bike better since there was nothing to supply and nothing to clean up. The Committee discussed that it could be a stationary bike that was portable to allow it to be taken to bike events or the farmers market. Billings noted she would look into it.

6. PATRIOTIC PICNIC BOOTH (FREEDOM FESTIVAL)

Billings noted that the Freedom Festival is hosting a picnic in City Square Park on June 22nd and is looking for fun and interactive booths to have activities geared towards kids. She had noted that she asked Daubs and he noted that he does not lead the bike rodeos. She noted that bike rodeos will be part of her League Certified Instructor course, but that will not take place before the Freedom Festival.

Prouty suggested putting a watermelon in a bike helmet and dropping it or doing some sort of an egg drop with and without padding. Billings had concerns with the clean-up afterwards. Prouty then suggested having different kinds of bike to ride, Billings noted she could contact Northtown to team up with them. Prouty also suggested some sort of board with streets and bike lanes and have kids work through how to travel safely on the streets. Billings noted that was a great idea too. She was looking for low cost options but would look into it.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

Billings provided an update on the CeMar Bridge artist proposal submittal. She also noted that the City was working with the University of Iowa that received a grant to install bike and pedestrian counters in front of City Hall. This will be especially important to show the before and after date when the Central Corridor is complete.

Carolan noted that he would be resigning from the Committee, but asked that Seth Staashelm, the Deputy Parks Director be recommended for appointment to the Committee, by the Committee.

Motion by Whyte, seconded by Prouty to recommend appointment of Seth Staashelm to the Marion Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

All 'Ayes', motion passed.

8. ADJOURN:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:28pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Scott, Secretary