



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

MINUTES

February 21, 2006 ■ 7:00 PM
Committee Room
Second Floor, City Hall

- Members Present:** Phillip Barron, Alan Dippy, Heather Fisher, Robert Glenn, Tim Griffin, Judy Martell, Pete Schubert, Caleb Southern, Mike Wolosin
- Members Absent:** Excused absences: Diane Daniel, Phil McHugh, Chris Mankoff, Sam Hummel
- Staff Present:** Alison Carpenter
- Guests Present:** Beth Timson
- Public Present:** Dan Clever, Bob Jentsch, Seth Vidal, Eunice Chang

I. Call to Order

Chair Heather Fisher called the meeting to order.
Acting Secretary was Alison Carpenter.

II. Approval of Minutes

The January 17, 2006 meeting minutes were approved “as is.”

III. Adjustments to the Agenda: Introductions & Announcements

N/A

IV. Public Comment

N/A

V. Presentation/Guests

Beth Timson, with Durham’s Parks & Recreation Department, made a presentation to the commission regarding proposed revisions to City ordinances for skateboarding and bicycling. Parks & Recreation and Transportation will co-sponsor an upcoming City Council agenda item to update the City ordinances. Several changes were made to the old “toy vehicle” ordinance for cycling, which will bring it up-to-date with State statutes and more appropriate vehicular cycling standards. Beth asked for the commission’s endorsement of these changes, as well as input on one particular ordinance regarding sidewalk riding. The existing ordinance did not allow bicycles to ride on sidewalks, except for policing. Beth proposed that this ordinance might be changed to allow for sidewalk riding. Several commission members were concerned with such a change; after much discussion, Bo Glenn made a motion to omit the ordinance and approve the document with that change; Tim Griffin seconded. Mike Wolosin and Pete Schubert voted in opposition. Motion carried.

VI. Old Business

- Development Review Update – Judy informed the commission that she had attended two DRB meetings, all with zoning cases (on which she does not vote). Judy may need a sub at the next meeting; Pete volunteered to help if needed. Bo also volunteered, if Pete is unavailable. Judy mentioned that bicycle parking is often a concern with site plans she is reviewing, especially regarding rack choice. This may be an issue to raise with future revisions to the UDO.
- BPAC Website Update – N/A
- Treasurer's Report – N/A (Caleb has Kinko's receipt to submit for reimbursement)
- University Updates – Tim Griffin updated the commission on the TTA commuter survey results from Duke Hospital. These surveys indicated that roughly 15% of hospital employees may be worthwhile targets for education/encouragement campaigns, as they indicated interest in the possibility of biking/walking to work.
- Pedestrian/Bike Plan Update – Pete Schubert gave an update to the commission on the recent Feb 9 Bike Plan stakeholder committee meeting, and announced the March 23 public workshop. Currently, the Plan is on schedule; consultants have completed an existing conditions review and will present a proposed route network on March 23. A final workshop will be held in May; Pete suggested that the Plan be presented to DOST and BPAC prior to final Council presentation, upon completion.

Alison updated the commission on the Pedestrian Plan. A draft Plan is available online at www.durhamwalks.org for review. A final public workshop is to be held on February 28, to take feedback and comments on the Plan recommendations. The Plan will also be presented to BPAC in March, as well as five PACs and DOST. Changes will be incorporated into the final Plan, which will go before Council on April 17 or May 1 for approval.

- Old Durham-Chapel Hill Rd Study Update – Pete informed the commission that the Plan was approved the DCHC TAC on February 8; funding issues remain, and a funding strategy will be presented to the TAC in April for fully funding the corridor improvement. Questions arose about development requirements, since the Plan is approved. Alison will follow up with development review staff.
- Community Bike Parade – N/A
- Education Materials – the commission approved the materials, with minor changes. Request to post materials online for download, upon completion.
- Annual Report to City Council – item approved at January meeting. Heather Fisher will make report to Council in March/April.
- TTA Regional Rail – Heather Fisher drafted a letter of support from BPAC for TTA, which will be sent to House/Senate representatives, USDOT Secretary Mineta, and local Council/Commission members. Heather asked if BPAC would

also like to send a copy to the N&O and Herald Sun editors. Mike Wolosin made a motion that BPAC send editorial to the local papers; Pete Schubert seconded. Phillip volunteered to help craft a second letter to the editor from the commission. Pete asked that the letters include dollar figures about local development contributions along the rail corridor. Caleb requested that local representatives on the State legislature be copied, as well as Nina Schlosberg and Ken Spaulding (NC Board of Transportation members).

VI. New Business

- Bicycle & Pedestrian Connectivity – Caleb Southern presented information on the current language within the UDO regarding bicycle and pedestrian connectivity. Caleb presented Bob Jentsch from the Planning Commission, to discuss his proposed revisions to the Durham Comprehensive Plan and UDO, and asked that the commission support his suggested language for the Comp Plan and UDO, which would require developers to illustrate bike/ped connectivity in site plans, development plans and subdivision plans.

Alison mentioned the recommendation in the draft Ped Plan related to proposed off-site requirements for developers; especially the connection of sidewalks from property frontage to adjacent facilities. Bob suggested that this intent is not in conflict with his recommendation for improved language on connectivity.

The commission approved of both recommendations – Bob will draft language for the Ped Plan, and to present for official BPAC endorsement at the next meeting.

- Main Street Bridge Update – item tabled
- Durham Open Space Plan – item tabled

VII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

ACTION ITEMS

- Present annual report to City Council
- Draft and send letter re TTA Regional Rail project
- Draft and send letter to City's department of Parks & Recreation regarding Eno River and Lower Warren Creek greenways
- Develop 2006 Fiscal Plan
- Follow up with City staff regarding development requirements on Old Chapel Hill Rd