

**CITY OF ALBANY
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION
City Hall, Santiam Room
333 Broadalbin SW
Tuesday, February 10, 2009
12:00 Noon**

MINUTES

Commission Members Present	Bill Pintard, Chairman; Mark Siddall; Jim Lawrence; Terrance Virnig; Kelly Albers; Matthew Hasek
Commission Members Absent	Steve Pensinger
Staff Present	Jeff Woodward, P.E., Civil Engineer II ;Ronald G. Irish, Transportation Systems Analyst; C. Marie Redner, Public Works Project Accountant
Others Present	Nita Eggers, Fit Walkers; Sandra Kramer, Fit Walkers

CALL TO ORDER

Pintard called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 13, 2009, meeting were unanimously approved following a motion by Siddall and a second by Lawrence.

NEW COMMISSION MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

Kelly Albers introduced herself and commented that she is an avid bike rider who lives in North Albany and occasionally commutes to work in Tangent.

Matthew Hasek introduced himself and commented that he was honored to be chosen to serve on this Commission.

The other Commission members welcomed both Kelly and Matthew.

2009 OREGON BIKE SUMMIT

Woodward reported he had called Tara at Travel Oregon to get the dates of the upcoming Bike Summit. The dates are April 21-22, 2009. He also reported that he obtained approval from Diane Taniguchi-Dennis, Public Works Director, to pay for the registrations of two participants from this Commission to attend the Summit. The cost of registration is \$100 per person and is held in Salem this year.

Pintard explained what the Bike Summit is about for the Commission's two new members. He stated it is run by Travel Oregon, Cycle Oregon and the BTA. Discussions are held during the Summit regarding all cycling topics related to America and European countries. There are break-out sessions held to discuss making cycling in Oregon more enjoyable. Lawrence and Virnig expressed a desire to attend this year.

ACTION: None

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL: REPORT (Pintard)

Pintard said the upcoming meeting will be held next week at Oak School and is to include the principal and the Parent Teacher Organization to help implement a better program at school. There was no program last year but there was one the prior year at Oak School.

Pintard gave a brief history of the Safe Routes to School Program for the new members and reported the difficulty of getting funding for projects. Desired projects include a path along Gibson Hill and a path from North Albany to downtown Albany across the bridge. He also discussed some of the factors involved in making a path from Albany to Corvallis, including the cost of fuel that could drive this project.

Lawrence said that participation is the obstacle for the Safe Routes to School program. He noted that part of the effort in making this happen is the need for a coordinator for the program and that funding is needed for this position. When the program was at Oak Grove School there were active parents who wanted to make it work so it was successful.

Siddall voiced the need for bike paths to be wide enough and smooth enough for bikes and other forms of mobility such as wheelchairs. A discussion ensued regarding a recent Albany Democrat Herald article regarding the disrepair of sidewalks around the City.

ACTION: None

CRITERIUM, AUGUST 15, 2009: STATUS UPDATE (Lawrence)

Lawrence reported the Albany Downtown Association (ADA) has approved the Criterium to be sponsored by the Oregon Bicycle Racing Association (OBRA).

Pintard said we need to move quickly on the funding issue and hopes Samaritan Health will sponsor. He further noted that the Cherry Pie Ride will be held next week from Corvallis to Independence.

ACTION: None

MAY 2009: BIKE MONTH & BIKE TO WORK WEEK (Siddall)

Siddall has checked with the BTA and was informed that they are willing to include Albany in their website for promoting this event. They would appreciate \$500 to \$1,000 toward costs for the event, but it is not mandatory. He also reported that a Bike Challenge event will be held in September.

Discussion followed regarding all three events and what date(s) to hold them. Hasek presented a motion to have Bike Month, Bike to Work Week, and the Bike Challenge all held in the month of September. Siddall seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Albers noted that Cycle Oregon is also held in September and the associated publicity would be a plus for the events.

Hasek stated he has been reading articles from neighboring states with a higher percentage of bike riders per population and will report on some of those State's ideas at a future meeting.

ACTION: None

OTHER BUSINESS

Crosswalk Safety – Hasek reported an incident that occurred in Portland recently where a visually-impaired person was struck in a crosswalk. He feels there needs to be a public awareness of crosswalk safety.

He further gave an example using the crosswalks on Lyon Street. He reported that on September 7, 2008, 4 warning tickets were issued and in the following days there was one non-injury accident and one car was towed due to the driver being in non-compliance to the Oregon state law regarding crosswalks. He said he would be willing to develop (with City approval) fliers to hand out that would educate citizens and make them aware of the dangers.

ACTION: Virnig will ask the Albany Police Department if they would do a saturation patrol of the crosswalks in this area.

Bike Maps – Pintard shared a recently published article from the Albany Democrat Herald regarding the newly updated bike maps for our area.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting has been scheduled for March 10, 2009, 12:00 p.m., in the Periwinkle Room at Albany City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Marie Redner
Public Works Project Accountant