

Bike Medina County
Oct. 4, 2018
Medina County Administration Building

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Secretary John Gladden (Medina County Park District), Roger and Mara Hornstrom (Medina community representatives), Keith Rasey (Biking for Mother Earth), Tony Ratejczak (NOACA Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Medina County representative), Tom Ries (Wadsworth community representative), President Beth Schnabel, First Vice President Tim Smith, Treasurer Suzanne Swain (Friends of Medina Parks), and Jansen Wehrley (Medina Parks Director).

Call to Order

Tim called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. Second Vice President Lynne Nawalaniec is on vacation and was unable to attend.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes from Sept. 6 was tabled until the next meeting so all would have the opportunity to read them.

Treasurer's Report

Suzanne reported we have received an EIN number and she is working on opening an account at Westfield Bank. She is completing additional paperwork from the state attorney general's office.

Old Business

Tom shared information on the grand opening of the Interurban Trail in Wadsworth on Oct. 5 and invited members to attend. Keith shared information about a program on the economics of income distribution he is facilitating on Oct. 30 and invited all to attend.

Dan Hostetler e-mailed information to Beth and John regarding potential group liability insurance. Additional information about BMC will be needed to complete the quote.

Tony opened a discussion on bike racks in Medina's downtown, particularly their lack of visibility around the square, noting he continues to see bikes locked to trees and posts. Jansen reported the city has been promoting bike rack locations on social media and has received a good response.

Tony presented an outline for a new initiative called the Bicycle Friendly Business Project. Its aim is to inspire commercial establishments to become bicycle friendly by providing bicycle parking near their entrances. Jansen noted any plan that infringed on sidewalk space or parking space in the Public Square area would not be approved by the city or by the Community Design Committee. However, bike racks on private property are possible, with approval from property owners. Locations along the new North Court Street multi-use trail could be good sites for bike racks, he said, especially with the number of business renovations also occurring in the

corridor. Jansen also noted it would be possible to put bike racks in the municipal parking garage. Tim, Keith and John volunteered to work with Tony on the project.

Beth reported continued success in reaching out to township trustees for help in placing 3-foot-rule signs in their communities. Chatham has approved four signs, Montville six signs, Hinckley eight signs and Guilford nine signs. Beth said she has been in conversation with donor Murray Van Epp, who expressed his desire to see the entire county outfitted with 3-foot-rule signs and has generously committed to helping fund that.

Beth said she rode the proposed ODOT bike route through Medina County and found several locations that were not conducive to cycling. Tony noted he expressed some of the same concerns to ODOT and was under the impression changes would be implemented. Tony said he would follow up with ODOT. Jansen reported Medina City Council has approved the portion of the route through the city.

No BMC committee members were able to participate in the NOACA bike and pedestrian count this year. Tim suggested requesting the count information from NOACA, since it would be useful in reaching out to local businesses regarding bike racks.

New Business

Beth noted the need for volunteers to staff the BMT booth on the Fall Foliage Tour. Tim, Roger and Mara volunteered to help.

Beth reported Matthew Schley will be relocating and so is unable to assist with grant applications.

Jansen shared the city is working to have the South Court Street bike lane striping completed before winter. In addition, he is working with the city planning and engineering departments to obtain a grant to extend the Reagan Parkway multi-use path from Larken's Way to the new multi-use path on North Court Street. Planning is also underway for a new path that will start at Spokes Café (Champion Creek Multi-purpose Trail) at The Sophia Victoria Trailhead and go north on South Broadway past Family Video to East Smith Road and west on East Smith to South Court Street. It will be 8-foot-wide concrete to match what was recently installed on East Smith. The project will include improved crosswalks at the intersection and an apron on South Broadway for road bicyclists to gain access to the trailhead area.

Adjournment

Before calling for adjournment, Tim took a moment to congratulate and thank Beth for all her work in attending township trustee meetings to negotiate placement of 3-foot-rule signs.

Suzanne motioned for adjournment. Tom seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Nov. 1 at the Medina County Administration Building.