



CHARLOTTE
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 26, 2020
6:00 PM

This meeting was conducted in remote session as a virtual meeting online due to COVID-19.

Members Present: Angie Stoyanovich Milton Irizarry Jr. Elizabeth Swanzy-Parker
Adam Raskoskie Eoin Sheil Debra Franklin
Liza Pratt Veda Evans

Members Absent: Jamie Emmanuelli

Staff Present: Will Washam Keith Sorensen Vivian Coleman Johanna Quinn

Agenda Item #1 Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Raskoskie at 6:00PM.

Agenda Item #2 Introduction of members and guests

All present introduced themselves and their affiliation. Also present were Eric Zaverl of Sustain Charlotte, Martin Zimmerman, Kate Cavazza from County Health, and Dustin Branham.

Agenda Item #3 Call to the public

Eric Zaverl announced what Sustain Charlotte is doing to support Shared Streets during the COVID-19 pandemic. Martin Zimmerman wanted to know if Ed McKinney will come talk about the Strategic Mobility Plan. Will Washam replied yes, he can do that.

Agenda Item #4 Review of the minutes

Eoin Sheil motioned to approve the April minutes, Liza Pratt seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 Monthly Reports

Chair's Report: Adam Raskoskie stated he submitted the budget recommendations to Mayor and Council and got positive responses. Angie Stoyanovich asked how Adam's presentation to Council went. Mr. Raskoskie replied he thought it went well.

Staff Report: Will Washam talked about the XCLT and all the connections that will be made. The South Charlotte Connector project just opened, it connects to Park Rd and lower McAlpine Creek greenway. Liza Pratt asked about the County portion, what has been built? Mr. Washam

replied the County has completed the southern-most portion to I-485, and will extend to the Polk historic site in the fall. Veda Evans asked about the timeline. Mr. Washam went over the timeline.

City Council report: Adam Raskoskie said tomorrow Council is taking straw votes on the budget. He will try to stream it. He asked how budget discussions went last week. June 8 is the budget adoption date; Council will vote to adopt the FY21 budget. Eric Zaverl shared the meeting YouTube link.

Agenda Item #6 Standing subcommittee reports: N/A

Agenda Item #7 New business

Shared streets update: Adam Raskoskie stated it is good to know what actually went into effect. Will Washam gave an update saying it is has been a collaborative effort across CDOT. He talked about streets as public space being an important use. Charlotte has a rich history of using public space for multiple activities, OS704, etc. Because of COVID-19 people are staying at home, we need more public space to get outside and exercise. A quarter of a million people don't drive. Shared Streets are to prioritize walking and biking over driving. They are for social distancing, not block parties, etc. The City is using resources from NACTO to inform decisions. Staff are looking for streets that can quickly implement the goals and not disrupt emergency or transit services. They have created messaging signs to let people know what the traffic control devices are for. Mr. Washam showed examples of the traffic control devices being used. McKlintock, Romany, and Jamestown are some of the first streets to be implemented. Staff convened a committee of stakeholders and is looking for feedback. Veda Evans asked how to go about asking for other streets to be added? Mr. Washam replied CDOT would like to look at what other streets could be added, and explore different timeline options as well. Adam Raskoskie asked what about state-maintained streets? Will Washam said they are looking into this, having conversations about it. Elizabeth Swanzy-Parker asked would there also be a look at stop signs and cross walks to help guide people toward this shared street infrastructure? Will Washam said they are looking into how different low-cost elements could help, but also how more permanent improvements could be implemented. Adam Raskoskie talked about continuing in the direction of opening streets that are not already as bike/ped friendly. Will Washam said yes, we are looking for streets that could be rolled out quickly but want to continue conversations to add more and strengthen the program. Thirty mph was part of the cut off for the first round of criteria, and we highlighted streets adjacent to parks. Adam Raskoskie asked if there is alignment between shared streets and outdoor dining options/expansion? Will Washam said yes, CDOT Public Service is leading both conversations. Angie Stoyanovich said kudos for all the good work on this thus far. She wants to know how to take this conversation to the people whose daily lives are impacted. Will Washam said we are going to leverage Housing and Neighborhood Services in this effort. Veda Evans suggested how can we help get people to work safely? Debra Franklin said it would be nice to advertise at every bus stop what we are trying to do. Angie Stoyanovich said she likes the idea too, thinks the marketing and branding was very well done. Ms. Swanzy-Parker said she is thinking about grocery stores and maybe that could be included along with pharmacies; safe routes to get to them. Debra Franklin said

pharmacies are starting to take a more proactive role in well patient care so this would be a good tie in. Dustin Brannum asked if this is a one and done type pilot project. He said it will be a big challenge to add more streets. Mr. Washam replied yes, it's a challenge, but also an exciting opportunity to collaborate across departments. Ms. Swanzy-Parker asked about adding schools or a school as part of the pilot criteria. Debra Franklin pointed out school is not in session right now. Mr. Washam said we can add it to the conversation.

2020 Priorities Advancement: Adam Raskoskie introduced the next topic saying there is a report-out on subcommittee discussion. Liza Pratt said they walked through all the different priorities. She went over who will be the chair of each. Caitlin Tobin is over Engineering and Evaluation. She shared the priorities on the screen for each subcommittee and proposed tasks to fulfill. Veda Evans talked about this being a good starting point but they are still hammering out some things. Adam Raskoskie said he wants to make sure the full BAC has the opportunity to weigh in on these priorities since they will be helping to carry out the tasks. Angie Stoyanovich talked about the importance of Vision Zero being part of the Education subcommittee priorities. Milton Irizarry said we are advocating for Vision Zero. Adam Raskoskie said even though VZ is its own program, separate from the bike program, he feels it is still important for the BAC to support it.

Agenda Item # 8 Member topics

Eoin Sheil said he sent a letter about shared streets to neighborhood associations and got support from east Charlotte. Adam Raskoskie thanked him and agreed on the importance of these underserved neighborhoods being a focus of shared streets too. Ms. Swanzy-Parker talked about increasing information coming through subcommittees and thinking about the NextDoor app. She asked Will Washam if he can share on NextDoor what is taking place through the BAC? Will Washam said it is an interesting question and would want to get some guidance from the City Clerk's office about public notification procedures and how that would work. Debra Franklin said she received an email about a pilot for bicycling from Center City Partners and would like to have them present to the group. Or can the BAC be a reference for them? Ms. Franklin is to forward the email to Mr. Washam. Eoin Sheil stated he was marked absent on the April BAC minutes but he was actually present. Keith Sorensen said he would correct that.

Agenda Item #9 Adjourn and confirm next meeting date

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25PM. The next regularly schedule meeting of the BAC is on June 23.