

2022.2.14 BPAC Minutes
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Virtual meeting

Attendees:

BPAC Members: Eldon Boes, David Bouk, Zack DesJardins, Kristin Donley, Jim Durham, Judith Fogel, Carolyn Griglione, Bob Hartt, Lauren Jenkins, Casey Kane, Dave Levy, Josephine Liu, Michael Menchel, Erin Meter, Ken Notis, Mike O'Neil, Bradley Rawls, Mary-Jane Roth

Past Members/Guests: Bill Campbell, Liaison for Commission on Aging, Sue Gunter

City staff: Councilmember Sarah Bagley, Kristin Donley (ACPS)

Meeting called to order – Josephine Liu at 6:30 pm

Guest speaker: Councilmember Sarah Bagley

- Lived in Alexandria for 6+ years
- Moved to region to get out of her car and took the Metro and bus
- Moved to Alexandria, felt less safe walking and bicycling than in Washington, DC
- From her work in affordable housing, people with lower incomes are less likely to use a car
- Suggested highlighting the environmental part of bicycling as a way to broaden the conversation and try to expand the thinking a bit to encourage and induce people
- Common reaction to her biking to an event is “I can’t believe you rode here” which indicates the need for increased safety
 - we have an obligation in government to help people get around safely
- Eldon Does asked about Safe Routes to Schools program. Do you know much about that and if not, would you be interested in meeting to discuss it further?
 - Councilmember Bagley is familiar with Safe Routes to School and has participated in Bicycling in the Schools.
- Ken Notis asked about Complete Streets staffing
 - She planned to follow up with staff about Complete Streets staffing issues
- Judith Fogel suggested that the free buses not promoted enough to people
- Casey Kane asked about using local funds versus grant funds as the former is far easier for staff to administer while the latter is much more onerous. Many biking and walking projects are funded by grants.

Complete Streets Update

- Sent additional questions for Alex Carroll

Project/Event updates:

- The group discussed how to encourage people to walk and bike for short trips

- Run a contest encouraging people to do small trips such as Transportation Bingo
- Could tie into the CHIP
- Profiling people who have gone car-free or car-lite
- Tout health and physical benefits for walking and bicycling
- Make it seem approachable by showing people “how to get from Old Town to Del Ray”
- David Bouk mentioned how to bike to certain locations and what to do the bicycle once you have arrived
- Promote people in the media who are profiled about being car-free
- Could show people how to spot racks on Rackspotter
- Upcoming Walks and Rides – Josephine
 - Winter Bike to Work day this past Friday in St. Elmos in Del Ray
 - Bike Rodeos
 - Planning to host a bike rodeo on Sunday April 24, Earth Day will not happen due to COVID-19
 - Earth Month ride, tour about various green buildings and how they have met the various certification standards
 - Recent walks
 - Interested in National Walking day, first Wednesday in April 6 if people are interested, Judith can help mid-week, can led or walk
 - Woman’s history month ride or walk at the end of March, Fibre Space and Ethiopian cafe in south Old Town
 - CHIP, no new activities but came up with a one page description of their work plan, to the Partnership for a Health

Subcommittee Reports

- Infrastructure subcommittee – Ken Notis, Chair
 - Provided input on Beauregard on shared use path
 - Sent follow-up on Old Cameron Run for an Eisenhower Ave temporary bike lane
 - Mt Vernon Ave north of Glebe Rd
 - Longer term, Route 1 at Duke St and Safe Routes to schools
 - Most immediate campaign is the budget and Complete Streets staffing
 - Thinking about sending consensus letter in our listserv
 - Transportation Commission, Environmental Policy Commission and Traffic

and Parking Board already sent letters regarding budget as did BPAC

- Education subcommittee – Eldon Boes, Chair
 - Jane Davis is the new Safe Routes to School coordinator
 - Bicycling in the schools needs volunteers, much more intensive than ever before, must be a BPAC member to volunteer but if you are not a member, you can become one for free if you volunteer
 - 7-10 day process to be approved by ACPS
 - BITS Sign-up: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mKtGAPlwjHRfNzlc-ES91fCfvBBZF6CEBztH-6cP2SbE/edit?usp=sharing>
 - CPS Volunteer application: <https://www.acps.k12.va.us/volunteer> Be sure to include a note that you are a member of Alexandria BPAC and let Jane know when you have applied. She can help ensure expeditious handling of your application
 - Always need volunteers for BITS, largest need is Hammond Middle School with lots of beginner riders, contact Jane and Kristen, all BPAC members are allowed to be in the schools
- Communications – Judith Fogel
 - No updates

Boards and Commissions Updates

- No updates from the Commission on Aging
- Traffic & Parking Board did not meet in January
- Transportation Commission will be wrestling with problem of bikeshare funding, how and if they will continue expansion, challenge with the e-bikes and how many they should be buying

BPAC Business items

- Vests, cannot order sizes of lime color yet, will order 24 vests, could also order volunteers for the BITS with Kristen Donley
- Treasurer's report: \$15,913.63 balance
 - Paid for insurance from the League (\$787) and league member (\$70)
- January minutes approved
- BPAC Officer Elections, nominated
 - Ken Notis for chair
 - Josephine Liu for vice chair for bicyclists
 - Mary-Jane Roth for vice chair for pedestrian
 - Erin Meter for treasurer
 - Zack DesJardins for secretary

- Members approved slate of officers

Public Comment