



GREENWAYS COMMISSION of BOWLING GREEN and WARREN COUNTY MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES

September 11, 2017

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Jennifer Tougas – Chair

Felicia C. McLean

Linda Dickerson

Jason Marshall

Chip Winger

Johnny Johnson

Tom Lawrence

Tim Robinson

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Senad Veletanlic

Phil Lienesch

Nellie Franz

Jeff Stein

EX-OFFICIOS:

Greg Meredith – BGPW

Deneatra Henderson – KYTC D3

STAFF:

Karissa Lemon

Rachel Hurt

Ben Peterson

1. CALL TO ORDER / DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

With the arrival of enough members for a quorum, Chair Jennifer Tougas called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

A quorum was determined with seven (7) Commission members in attendance. Johnny Johnson arrived after roll call making attendance eight (8) members.

2. APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES, August 14, 2017

Chair Tougas asked the Commission members for comments or edits on the minutes of the August 14, 2017 Commission meeting. With no corrections, she asked for a motion.

ACTION: A motion to approve the August 14, 2017 Minutes of the Greenways Commission Meeting was made by Chip Winger and seconded by Felicia McLean. With no further discussion, Chair Tougas asked for a roll call vote. Linda Dickerson and Tim Robinson abstained. The remainder of the members approved. The Summary Minutes were APPROVED.

3. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Tougas called on Karissa Lemon, MPO Coordinator, to present the first item of new business. Ms. Lemon announced that the 2017 TAP [Transportation Alternatives Program] grants are applied for by a partnership with the Greenways, City of Bowling Green, and the MPO. This year, the City is taking the lead in the application process by applying for funds to construct a pedestrian/cyclist bridge underneath the Old Louisville Road bridge. The project would connect Weldon Peete Park to Mitch McConnell Park. Greg Meredith added that the City, in conjunction with the State, paid for funds for a scour mitigation project under the bridge, including design work for the bike/ped bridge. Phase I would provide funds for the bike/ped bridge under Old Louisville Road, while Phase II would provide funds to make the shared use path connections from the bridge to the respective parks. Currently, geotechnical work is underway, nearly complete. Deneatra Henderson added that the other two TAP projects: Moss Middle and West End, are in process. Moss Middle School TAP project is waiting for a letter from the Warren County Board of Education to state their willingness to donate the land to connect the greenway to the new elementary school. The West End TAP project was awarded about \$500,000, but applied for one million dollars. The funding document was approved and a notification of the consultant will be announced in the coming weeks. Due to not receiving the full

amount, there will be two phases of this project, with the need to prioritize which parts to complete for Phase I. There were no further questions or comments regarding the TAP projects.

The next item of new business addressed the Paula Nye grant. Ms. Lemon stated this grant is due the beginning of October and expressed several ideas to include for the application process. Ms. Lemon explained that this grant is for safety and education of bicycle and pedestrian travel and applicable items for application include, but are not limited to: signage of greenways facilities/wayfinding; materials for bike routes, maps, laws, awareness and education; lights, reflective bands, helmets are strongly encouraged; permanent trail maps; and temporary barriers for pop-up greenways/bike lanes. Members briefly discussed these items and added an interest in paying for a League of Bicyclists certified instructor. Other comments were made to improve the Greenways Commission brochures and provide a better and more efficient way for users, or prospective users, to find and use the greenways facilities. Johnny Johnson presented an app idea for cyclists to use to find safe routes on greenways and safe streets. Ms. Tougas added that there is still about \$2,300 from Bicycle Bowling Green that can be used for updated brochures and promotional/educational pieces.

4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & PROJECT UPDATES

Ms. Lemon stated that through internal staff discussions and staff changes in the Greenways position, this is good time for the Greenways Commission to self-evaluate and analyze the Commission's strengths and weaknesses. Before presenting the list of ideas – provided to members through a handout, in addition to several maps displaying priority routes and proposed connections (from the Multimodal Plan) – Ms. Lemon reminded members that this is a time to provide input, generate discussion, and provide any constructive criticism for moving forward. Ms. Lemon proposed changing the meeting schedule, starting in January, 2018, to quarterly or bi-monthly meetings. She also mentioned the potential of forming sub-committees to deal with specific items of business such as: promotion, education, marketing, fundraisers, and clean-up/volunteer efforts. Ben Peterson expressed that the Greenways Commission acts more as a advocacy and advisory board, rather than having the ability to fund projects and take specific action. He also suggested, rather than have specific sub-committees, to enact a working committee to work on specific advocacy efforts such as involvement in the community through education and/or events. Mr. Peterson additionally expressed his desires for the Commission to have more of a voice in the community, involving local officials, politicians, and other leaders in making decisions with future greenways. Jason Marshall suggested using email as a medium to vote on specific action items; Mr. Peterson stated that the By-laws will need to be amended to accommodate this, which will be further explored by staff. Linda Dickerson mentioned going to already existing community events to get the word out about the bike culture in Bowling Green and inform the public. Discussion continued about the role of the Commission members in community events and the need for members to take more initiative with organizing or volunteering with various community functions, as well as with the clean-ups. Ms. Lemon added that the clean-ups are a good way for the Commission members to get acquainted with the existing trails and an easy way to invite the community at large to be a part of it. Johnny Johnson stated the need for more partnerships with existing organizations for clean-ups and other events (KYMBA, BG Road Runners, BGLOB, Riverfront Foundation). It was discussed to explore more opportunities and mediums for using brochures or apps to inform people about the Greenways.

Ms. Tougas recommended members to continue to think through the ideas discussed at the meeting, and to share additional thoughts as applicable. She also informed the Committee about WKU's exploration of a BikeShare program on campus that would eventually lead to partnerships with the City of Bowling Green to expand the BikeShare facilities and locations.

VI. ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on October 9, 2017.