The CITY OF WINTER PARK
PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES

Regular Meeting March 11, 2014
Public Safety Building, 500 N. Virginia 8:30 am
Chief Raymond E. Beary Community Room

Present: Scott Redmon, Elisabeth Dang, Jill Hamilton Buss, David Erne, Jean Siegfried, and Tom Hiles
Absent: Whit Blanton and Susan Pins

City of Winter Park Staff: Sergeant Bruce Robinson, Police Dept.; Lindsey Hayes, Planning Dept.; Butch Margraf, Public Works Dept.; and Debra Moore, Public Works Dept.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. SunRail Trails presented by Forest Michael
2. Bike Valet volunteers for Art Festival – March 21, 22, and 23
3. Park To Park – March 28

CALL TO ORDER. Vice-Chm. Redmon called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Approval of Minutes
Vice-Chm. Redmon asked for approval of the minutes from February 11, 2014. Ms. Dang made a motion to approve the minutes; Ms. Siegfried seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously with a vote of 6-0.

II. ACTION ITEMS
Forest Michael, Michael Planning of Florida, presented his proposal for SunRail Trails. The ideas presented included public garden installation, car share, bike share, and a concessions/café area.

Mr. Michael presented copies of his overall proposed SunRail plan and the area around the station. Mr. Margraf stated of the interest in the potential for car share and bike share at the SunRail station. He pointed out where car share and bike share is proposed.

Ms. Hayes mentioned there is a public Art in Transit installation that will be going along the platform on the lawn area. There will be green space all the way to Morse Boulevard.

Mr. Margraf mentioned we are waiting to get the lease signed so we can get rid of the old Amtrak building and put green space there.

Mr. Michael presented a bit of history of Winter Park. In 2003 his firm and Dr. Bruce Stephenson worked on the City’s master plan for Central Park. It included a Friendship Garden created in the middle of Morse Boulevard that had bricks as part of the garden area. Eventually, the garden was moved to the Women’s Club but some of the bricks were left behind. The bricks look like street bricks but they have never been used in the street so they are pristine, light colored brick. At present, the Women’s Club has the plaque which was created for the 1930’s garden. Mr. Michael proposed there be a remnant piece of that garden where bike share is slated to go.

Mr. Michael reported students in the Rollins College master’s program submitted for a grant from EPA to which they had to submit a report for their recommendations on how to activate SunRail. They proposed a network meant to connect north/south and east/west neighbors together to downtown, commercial districts, events, schools and businesses.
Last summer a couple of interns from Mr. Stephenson’s program worked up a plan outlining the best areas for bicycle parking area and bike storage lockers. They chose the same area the City proposed.

What is next?
1. Mr. Michael will meet with the Women’s Club. They adopted the Friendship Garden and created a plaque for the 1930’s garden. He will make a presentation to their constituents to ask if they are interested in doing something different, possibly having something at the SunRail station as well as the Women’s Club.
2. Mr. Michael may talk to Rotary about the possibility of funding to work toward getting this built.
3. In April (date to be announced) 40 Rollins students will plant a native garden. Board members are invited to join in.

The architect, Victor Dover, who designed the Park Avenue Streetscape and the gate to Rollins College will speak at 7:00 pm on March 18 at Rollins. His book has a chapter on street bike pedestrian issues.

Mr. Margraf reported car share will be in place by April; the contract has been signed off by the City Manager. Our goal is to have bike share in place; however, at this date, it has not been signed off.

Bike rental locations. Discussion was held about a primary station at the SunRail station and smaller stations at other locations such as Winter Park Village and Rollins College. Mr. Margraf stated another location he heard about is the Alfond Inn. Mr. Hiles suggested bike share near the Winter Park Technical Center. The Winter Park Library has bike rentals which are available for non-Winter Park residents. Mr. Margraf stated he spoke to the property manager at Winter Park Village and she is ready to jump on board as soon as we tell her what we want. Board members mentioned people may use the bikes for various amounts of time.

Ms. Dang asked: “Do you think people would ride as far as the Winter Park Hospital?” Mr. Margraf stated the Hospital is an ideal location for some form of transportation between it and SunRail, particularly for the employees. However, we do not want to have inexperienced riders on a bike on Aloma Avenue and there is no excess pavement for widening the sidewalk. Ms. Hayes suggested the Hospital could have a shuttle or other form of transportation for employees.

Bike Valet volunteers for Art Festival – March 21, 22, and 23. The Art Festival opens Friday at 9 a.m. and runs through Sunday at 6 p.m. Mr. Margraf stated he will set it up and the Key Club volunteers will work it. The bike valet location will be by the red pepper tree on Morse Boulevard right across from the Amtrak station.

Park to Park – March 28, 2014
Mr. Margraf stated we need to get the word out. Ms. Hamilton Buss suggested the possibility of an incentive for signing up. The first ____ to sign up get ________. Mr. Erne suggested a contest between the schools for participation. Also, to encourage more participation, Mr. Margraf suggested pairing up with Sole Challenge next year.

Mr. Margraf asked what would be a good incentive to get more people to participate. Ms. Hamilton Buss suggested fitbit flex pedometer bracelet (which tracks the steps, distance and calories burned). She offered to donate some of the bracelets. It could be advertised “Must be registered to enter the drawing for the fitbit flex pedometer.” Mr. Erne stated it comes with an application so you can compete with your friends.

Getting the word out.
1. Mr. Margraf will have an oversized poster for Park-to-Park at the Art Festival bike valet and also some fliers announcing it.
2. If we have a pdf file maybe the schools can put it on the website.
3. Distribution of Fliers. Suggestion--send fliers home in student backpacks. Sergeant Robinson volunteered to take fliers to the principals and Mr. Margraf stated we can also deliver them.

Mr. Margraf reported Whole Foods will supply the snacks for the Park-to-Park ride.
Bicycle Friendly Communities Designation
Mr. Margraf has an application for bicycle friendly communities and pedestrian friendly communities. We applied about three or four years ago but did not qualify. The application requires a lot of work, a lot of demographics, counts, etc.

Mr. Erne suggested maybe a grant for a protected bike lane on Morse Boulevard from the SunRail Station to Winter Park Village, Winter Park Civic Center, etc. Mr. Margraf mentioned when applying for grants, it is important to be specific in defining the projects we want.

Mr. Margraf will be part of a conference call about TIGER 6 (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery). He will gather more information at that time. Mr. Hiles stated TIGER is really about the financials and how you can tie economic value to projects and show the impact it will have in the community. Mr. Michaels suggested applying for a connection from SunRail to Eatonville.

Mr. Margraf stated at this point TIGER does not fit the timing schedule. DOT is wholeheartedly focused on getting SunRail up and going. We previously met with DOT to talk about railroad right-of-way in the City, including locations where they encroach on businesses. We can plan to approach SunRail trails with DOT after SunRail is up and running possibly towards the end of May.

Other Business
Healthiest Weight designation. Ms. Hamilton Buss stated she is working with the City to apply for Healthiest Weight designation. She will assist the City to fill in a few missing pieces.

Brookshire update. At this time the focus is to get the sidewalks designed and built. Three streets have no sidewalks.

Sharrows. Mr. Margraf will have the streets department design the sharrow template and they will paint them on the street. The thermoplastic sharrow costs $350 each.

ADJOURNMENT
Vice-Chm. Redmon adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m. Next meeting is April 8, 2014, 8:30 a.m., Public Safety Building, Chief Raymond E. Beary Community Room (2nd floor) at 500 N. Virginia Avenue.

Respectfully submitted,

The Minutes for March 11, 2014 were approved on April 8, 2014

Debra Moore, Staff Assistant