



CITY OF COLUMBIA
BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC)
July 19, 2021
4:30 PM

Virtual meeting using conferencing technology
Columbia, SC

PAMELA BYNOE-REED • ZACH CAVANAUGH • DEREK DAVIS • CHRISTINA GALARDI
ANNA GILBERT • DOUGLAS GIOVANETTI • GEORGE KOKOLIS • CARMEN LATIMER • JENNIFER LEAPHART
BETSY NEWMAN • RACHEL THOMASON JOHN • CYNTHIA WATSON • MARY SCOTT-CHANCEY WILLIAMS

In attendance: Pamela Bynoe-Reed, Derek Davis, Christina Galardi, Anna Gilbert, Douglas Giovanetti, George Kokolis, Carmen Latimer, Jennifer Leaphart, Betsy Newman, Cynthia Watson, Mary Scott-Chancey Williams

Absent: Zach Cavanaugh, Rachel Thomason John

Staff: Leigh DeForth, Dana Higgins, Shane Shaughnessy, Lucinda Statler

No action was taken during this meeting as the meeting occurred virtually after the expiration of Council's emergency ordinance. The virtual meeting was held via zoom and open to the public. The below include notes regarding the discussions that occurred.

I. CALL TO ORDER- Chair Watson

Chairwoman Watson began the meeting at 4:34pm. Ms. Statler provided an overview of the in-person vs. virtual meeting. She noted that with the virtual meeting today, there wouldn't be any votes, however BPAC could still have a productive discussion today.

Dana Higgins joined the meeting at 4:35pm.

II. REGULAR AGENDA

a. Follow up on Mayor Benjamin's list

- Mayor's bike ride 2021? – Chair

Chairwoman Watson noted that in the past the Mayor's Bike Ride had been a well-attended, family friendly event with the Mayor and CPD's bike patrol. The committee discussed scheduling prior to or after the State Fair, perhaps the first week in October, concurrent with the end of the Walk Bike Ambassador sessions, and avoiding Fridays for high school football, with the ride to occur at 6pm. Chairwoman Watson noted the route tended to follow Main Street and Sumter, and could incorporate the

Vista Greenway or the Walk Bike tours. Ms. Statler offered to reach out to the Mayor regarding the potential dates/times, and Chairwoman Watson indicated that BPAC could reach out.

- Bike parking data – staff update

Mr. Shaughnessy reviewed the bike parking data that he had been able to gather, sharing the data he had been able to gather to date. He noted that he had worked to gather U of SC, Cola Town Bike Collective, and City data. He noted that it would be helpful for the members of BPAC to help identify existing bike parking data. He noted that he was working on being able to classify the data, and once the dataset was more complete, they would work on publishing the data to the website for public consumption. Ms. Galardi suggested that an email be provided with the website data to help allow the public to submit additional bike parking spaces via email. He noted that would be possible, and encouraged BPAC members to email him at shane.shaughnessy@columbiasc.gov with any bike parking they were aware of, especially where parking was provided at businesses outside of the right-of-way, as well. Ms. Williams noted that she was working to share this information via Facebook, and requested that Mr. Shaughnessy provide these maps for them to share to social media.

Pamela Bynoe-Reed joined the meeting at 4:52pm.

Ms. Statler reviewed some of the new standards for bike parking and bicycle and pedestrian connectivity in the new Unified Development Ordinance, which will be effective in late August. Short- and Long-term bike parking facilities are required depending on the type of facility, and standards for long-term parking include sheltered spaces. She noted that there were incentives related to using bike parking to reduce vehicular parking required by the ordinance, and if those incentives were used, developers should provide shower and changing facilities for bike commuters in office spaces as well. Ms. Statler offered to send links and highlight certain portions of the ordinance so that they could be used for social media posts.

- [June 14, 2021 DRAFT minutes](#) (for reference)

Chairwoman Watson noted that if committee members have any edits or revisions to the minutes they could reach out to staff prior to the August meeting, as the minutes would be voted on at the August meeting.

b. Open Streets discussion/ follow up

Ms. Williams noted that she and Ms. Galardi and the North Main Business Association and the parks committee were scheduled to meet later in the evening regarding Open Streets, and that ECCO would be interested. Ms. Newman indicated that Hyatt Park/Keenan Terrace Neighborhood Association might also be interested, and offered to reach out. She noted that the City was currently daylighting a stream in Hyatt Park, and that might be an additional neighborhood association that could be engaged with Open Streets.

c. Committee reports

- Ambassador program- Christina Galardi

Ms. Galardi noted that the communications materials had been drafted in earlier phases, but there were needs to finalize the materials and the strategy for distribution, and if there were needs for the rest of the team to support that would be helpful. She noted that workshops had been completed earlier to develop the curriculum, and that she had asked Amy Johnson-Ely (PCC) and Leigh DeForth to speak, and she was going to work with Eat Smart Move More to try to help identify a speaker for the first session. She noted that in order to implement successfully this Fall, she felt that one or two more sessions should occur, and

that draft slides should be sent to the speakers in advance. She noted that dates had been selected and a timeline had been established. Ms. Galardi reviewed the schedule, which was to recruit applicants in August, and start the program in September, with the first week being either the 13th or the 20th, to give a couple of weeks to select participants, and launch the program for three weeks, with the graduation ceremony during the October BPAC meeting. Ms. Galardi noted she had drafted some questions for an application, but was waiting to determine if there was a Gmail account that should house the application form. She noted there were a couple of communications concerns, so that if items were not resolved shortly, the program may need to be pushed a little. Chairwoman Watson thanked Ms. Galardi, and noted that the communications subcommittee would focus on the effort going forward, and that she would loop Ms. Galardi in to those meetings.

George Kokolis joined the meeting at 5:16pm

Ms. Galardi noted that Ms. Latimer had reached out to aid with the effort, and that there was still an opportunity to provide some support with this meeting, as some of the folks that had supported the effort early on have either moved on or are playing a substantial role with other subcommittees. Ms. Galardi noted that the program has been outlined as virtual, however at this point there may be an opportunity to hold them in-person, though virtual sessions may provide some greater flexibility for attendees at this time. Ms. Galardi noted that there had been some suggested “in-person homework” – such as a group bike ride and group walk. The BPAC meeting in October, also being in person, would act as a recognition ceremony.

- Bike/ped tours/partnerships- Betsy Newman

Ms. Newman provided an update on the subcommittee’s work, noting that the subcommittee had developed a list of about a dozen potential walk bike tours that were already established by various groups. Ms. Newman indicated that she had written short blurbs for about five of the tours, with the idea that each would be a monthly feature on BPAC’s social media (Facebook). She noted that Mr. Giovanetti had developed the slogan, “It’s your city, explore freely,” and that the next step was to launch the first tour, noting that the marketing committee could pick a tour to highlight, while also noting that this was a campaign that would continue past one walk. There was some discussion of the collateral that Ms. Williams provided, the drafting of a press release, and development of other content. Chairwoman Watson noted that it would be helpful to reach out to ColumbiaSC63 in advance of promotion of their walking tours, should they receive a sudden increase in interest. Ms. Bynoe-Reed noted that there may be an opportunity to provide free Soda Cap Connector passes to folks who were taking the walking tours, and Ms. DeForth noted that the committee could also share the City’s preservation bike rides. There was also discussion of potential Columbia-specific hashtags for the campaign, in conjunction with the press release.

- Marketing- Cynthia Watson

thanked Ms. Williams for the development of the bike/ped tour graphics, and noted that the subcommittee would be moving forward next with the Walk Bike Ambassador program. Ms. Watson noted that they were still looking for someone to chair the Marketing subcommittee.

d. City Planning Update – staff

Ms. Statler highlighted a few items on the planning update that would be happening between this meeting and the next. She indicated that SCDOT was hosting a meeting regarding Blossom, Devine, and Harden safety improvements on August 3rd at the Convention Center from 4-7pm, and that FEMA would be

hosting a virtual public meeting regarding the Columbia Canal Repairs on July 29th. She noted that Mr. Shaughnessy had applied for the Bikes Count Data Competition and the City of Columbia had been named an honorable mention. Ms. DeForth noted that the @colacompass Facebook and Instagram accounts would be highlighting multimodal transportation in August, and that would be easy content for BPAC to share to their Facebook page.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Election of Vice-Chair

Ms. Statler noted that Mr. Cavanaugh and Ms. Latimer had been nominated, and that the vote would occur at the August meeting at Earlewood Park.

Chairwoman Watson highlighted Ms. Bynoe-Reed's recent designation as a "Woman to Watch" as part of the 2021 SC Women in Business awards by Columbia Business Monthly and Charleston/Greenville Business Magazine, congratulating her on this recognition and her efforts. Ms. Bynoe-Reed noted that the award was given to women who had been in their industry for less than five years, and she was grateful for the award and recognition.

b. Attendance/[by-laws](#)

Ms. Statler noted that with in-person meetings, attendance would be tracked as per the bylaws, and reminded members to follow the policy, which required members to notify her of their inability to attend at least 24 hours in advance (unless there was an emergency).

Ms. Statler indicated that pedestrian and bicycle counts would occur again in September, and encouraged Committee members to calendar those dates and participate.

Chairwoman Watson encouraged BPAC members to join a subcommittee, as the work that subcommittees undertake was critical to BPAC efforts, and moving forward BPAC initiatives.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

V. ADJOURN

The meeting ended at 5:51pm.

**Respectfully Submitted,
City of Columbia Planning & Development Services Department**