

RPC ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE
March 19, 2014

MEETING NOTES

Attendees: Ira Weiss (Chair); Peggy Portier (Safe Routes to School); Eric McCrady (FCEO); Eric Sandine (Village of Lithopolis); Kent Huston (RPC); Steve Gayfield (Lancaster Parks and Recreational Department); Scott Tourville (City of Pickerington Engineer); James Mako (RPC); Bob Clark (Economic Development); Greg Eyeran (VCD); and Holly Mattei (RPC Executive Director)

Ira Weiss called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

1. Approval of April 21, 2014 meeting notes (see attached).

? made a motion to approve the April 21, 2014 meeting notes. ? seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Chairman's Report

Ira Weiss said there were three things he wanted to let everyone know about. Mr. Weiss said thank you to all for electing him as Chair. The first thing was in regards to a Safe Routes to School Policies, Resources and Fundings Workshop at ODOT. At the meeting they presented county health rankings. Fairfield County was 15th in Healthy Outcomes and 12th in Health Factor Ranks. The Health Factor Ranks included healthy behavior in regards to tobacco, alcohol, sexuality, clinical care, etc. Mr. Weiss also commented that Fairfield County was one of the healthiest counties in Ohio.

The second thing Mr. Weiss presented was the League of American Bicyclists ranking of Bicycle Front League Communities. Ohio went front being 32nd to 16th. In a quote front ODOT they said, "Bicycling is a growing transportation choice and activity for many Ohioans. We continue to support investment and programs and infrastructure which supports safety and connectivity."

Mr. Weiss' third item was Discover Ohio by Bike which is funded by ODNR.

5:25 wanted to know who would be circulating the reports.

Mr. Weiss said that was a good question and that probably all of the agencies would since 1000s were printed. They would make them available to visitors and get some for our kiosks.

5:45 stated that Convention and Visitors Bureaus will ask for a supply especially if their counties would be included

Mr. Weiss said that it is pretty spread out around the state and there is a map on the back of the report.

3. Update on Bikeways in Baltimore

Ms. Mattei gave an update on the Bikeways in Baltimore. She indicated that Kent Huston, Greg Bachman and herself attended the Baltimore Parks and Recreation meeting at the end of April. She said Baltimore was proactive in their approach to get more cyclists to go through Baltimore. A park off of 158, at the crossroads of Washington Street wants the trailhead to start there because water and sewer is there for a potential restroom and there is also plenty of parking. Ms. Mattei also provided that meeting with a copy of the Rolling Forward Plan. She also let them know that RPC staff would help them put together a map. She also urged Baltimore to involve the public with a possible public meeting where the public could provide their input.

8:25 commented that Baltimore might not get what they wanted done immediately but it was at least started.

8:35 said that she already had someone interested at the Fairfield County Trails Association meeting.

Ms. Mattei said that FHTA attended the Baltimore meeting and asked 8:35 what his perspective was.

8:53 (Peggy?) said that he seemed ready to go and wanted their input in what they wanted and also that he was willing to accept comments and ideas.

Mr. Weiss asked what it took to appoint a representative from Baltimore?

Ms. Mattei said that Marsha Hall was there representative but since she left there has not been a replacement. She also said that she would be willing to have the new administrator come here but he has a lot of meetings and might not be able to attend regularly.

Mr. Weiss suggested that an alternate might be appointed.

9:56 said that even a resident who has an interest could be here.

Ms. Mattei suggested having them talk to others who might be interested if Scott could not come. She also said that she would keep working with them and once there is a map in place she will share it with the Committee for their approval.

4. Other Business

Ms. Mattei had three things to update the Committee on. The first was the Refugee Road Update.

Ms. Mattei said at the last meeting they were considering marrying the project on the other side of Pickerington to this project. A concern she brought up was that they would be subjected to following federal law and the prevailing wage permits.

11:50 said that Refugee Road on both sides of 256 will probably have them on budget anyway. He said that ODOT presented for safety funds for Refugee Road and that we would not officially own that part of Refugee Road until after the application deadline. 11:50 also said that the east part of Refugee Road is not ours.

Ms. Mattei said that someone other than the RPC would need to sponsor it on the application. She suggested a Pickerington representative or someone from the County Engineer's Office. Ms. Mattei also said the best course of action would be to wait and look at the Clean Ohio Funding that will have another round of applications in February.

The second item of Ms. Mattei's is a review of MORPC's Active Transportation Plan. She used the presentation from the stakeholders meeting that her and MR. Weiss attended last week. The meeting discussed five topics: the reason MORPC is preparing the plan, the purpose of the stakeholders meeting, scope and timeline, review network data, and the next steps.

MORPC said that they wish to be the first in the Midwest with a comprehensive transportation plan. Both the East and the West Coasts have plans but there are hardly any in between. They also want to address how it is going to integrate into the current plan. The plan MORPC needs to do to receive funding for transportation plans needs to include planning strategies, and identification of infrastructure projects over the next 20 years. The result in this plan is a Transportation Improvement Program that results in the funding.

Ms. Mattei also said MORPC has a Thoroughfare Plan whose main goal is to get pedestrians, transit and bicyclists into the Active Transportation Plan. She also described how there were two committees, the working and the stakeholders committees. The working committee is the steering committee that works for the local interest. The stakeholders are the communities and interest groups that will give the information back to the communities and act as liaisons. Ms. Mattei said that she and Mr. Weiss attended the stakeholders meeting.

The before-mentioned slide show had a cost benefit analysis done by a professor at The Ohio State University. The Regional Bicycle and Transit Network is based upon a review of local plans. It identifies major bicycle corridors and only includes the major routes

Next meeting will be June 16th at 2:30 p.m.