

## **Springfield Bicycle Advisory Council**

Meeting Minutes – September 13, 2021

### Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 4:35pm.

### Roll Call

Members Present: Tom Clark, Mike Klemens, Peter Blythe Kiefer, Taylor Sutton, Cynthia Thompson. Ted Sunder; Michael Higgins

Public Comment. None

Approval of Agenda. Approved

Approval of Meeting Minutes. Approved

Bicycle Park (BMX track, cross-country trail, rodeo skills course). No report

### Bike Facility Enhancements.

Taylor stated that she would like for the SBAC to help promote the process for reporting problems to Public Works. Tom asked Taylor to contact Anne Baker, Marketing Director of the Springfield Bike Club to discuss how SBAC and the Bike Club could work together to promote SBAC communications to the public via the SBC website.

Tom mentioned that Molly Berns, SSCRPC Executive Director, was at the regional planning meeting that Tom, Taylor, Steven and Ben had attended. He stated that we need to keep in touch with her as she is interested in including bike-ped planning in the planning process.

### Bike Tourism.

Tom mentioned IDNR's Walk Hike Bike History Program which provides tours of historic sites on Wednesdays and Fridays between 10am and 1pm.

### Bike Walk/Safety Education

Youth Education: Mike Klemens met with Jason Wind, Director of School Support and asked who SBAC should work with now that Jeremy Goss had moved to another position. Mike recommended holding a Walk/Bike to School Day in the Spring. Taylor recommended getting the list of PTO/PTA members and contacting them to begin to create interest – a grassroots effort from the ground up with parents, rather than administrators down could be another approach. Ted asked if Franklin Middle School would be an option, especially since the path is now paved

Adult Education: Mike sent a press release to the Council about the upcoming Bike Count. Mike will send out a press release to invite volunteers to sign up. Taylor will also contact Anne Baker. Mike suggested that we develop a Speaker's Bureau – a list of contacts of individuals in the community that the committee could contact regarding bike-related issues. Tom reported on the changes to the Bike Friendly Community Award. He stated that questions are being changed - Enforcement is being replaced with Equity & Inclusion. He added that renewal applications will

now be due in Fall 2022 rather than Spring 2022. He recommended that committee members begin to meet in mid-October to conduct a gap analysis to help identify priority next steps toward Silver. Tom stated that the primary focus would be on Bronze renewal, although some will be pushing for Silver. Michael stated that our biggest challenge in getting Silver would be education. We need curriculum in the schools while also getting parents involved in the process. Taylor suggested that we approach a school such as Owen Marsh which has strong parental involvement. Tom stated that Urbana has gold status. Michael suggested talking with Urbana to find out what they do to fulfill the education component.

#### Springfield Bicycle Club involvement in bicycle friendly community activities

Ted reported that the Capital Century went well with 340 participants. There were some problems with the route, but it turned out fine. Tom stated that they had done an excellent job marking the roads. Michael Higgins asked why the event was held on Saturday, rather than Sunday. Ted stated that there were many reasons for that.

#### Committee Reports

**Bike Counts:** Taylor reported that a bike count will be done again this fall. However, it won't be nearly as large as it was in the spring. She asked every committee member to do 2 shifts between now and September 30. Ted added that Anne may be willing to send out an email blast announcing the need for volunteers. Cynthia offered to get out the word to UIS students needing volunteer hours

#### Old Business

**Bill Donels Memorial:** Tom reported that over 100 people attended the church service and over 30 attended the bench dedication on the SVT. He added that the bench looks great and that the location is wonderful. He stated that the Bike Club had done a lot to get everything set up.

**Secure bicycle storage at transportation center:** Mike stated that he had been in touch with Sarah Jimenez regarding the need for bicycle storage in the new facility.

**Interurban Trail routing associated with Legacy Point development.** No report

#### New Business None

#### Announcements

Michael Higgins stated that the Leland Grove Board is willing to put up wayfinding signs if provided but couldn't pay for them. Mike stated that someone from Leland Grove had talked about having a Bike Advisory Committee for Leland Grove. which is a separate City.

#### Confirm Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m. The next meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at Municipal Center West – 7th and Monroe, City Council Conference Room – Third Floor.