

# Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board

Monday, December 18, 2017, 4:00 pm

City of Bonita Springs

Liles Hotel 27300 Old 41 Road Upstairs Conference Room

## MINUTES

- I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER  
Meeting called to order 4:07 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

**Committee Members**

Sarah Baker  
Darren Robertshaw  
Scott Schnappauf  
Lindsay Robin  
Samantha Bolde – new member

**Liaison and Advisory Members**

Sean Gibbons, Community Development  
Amy Quaremba, Councilwoman  
Mike Gibson, Councilman

**Public**

Luis Garrido  
Debbie Garrido  
David Lipman

III. APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

- A. 10/16/17 Meeting Minutes

***Mr. Scott Schnappauf moved to approve the minutes from the October 16, 2017, meeting; Mr. Darren Robertshaw seconded; motion passed unanimously.***

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Welcoming New Members & Honored Guests

Mr. Sean Gibbons welcomed new member Samantha Bolde. Ms. Bolde grew up in Naples, she is a Gator fan. She bought two years ago in Bonita Springs and works for the Hertz Corporation in insurance and risk management. Ms. Bolde stated her husband is a cat 3 bike racer, loves to race and is really big into group cycling. Ms. Bolde and her husband are members of several cycling groups. Ms. Bolde wants to give back to the community and be a part of it.

B. Council Member Items (Community Coordination and Safety)

Councilwoman Amy Quaremba is attending the meeting today because residents of the Pelican Landing community approached her regarding a tragic biking accident where a resident was killed. Although the accident did not involve an automobile, Councilwoman Quaremba would like to look into what can be done to reduce all fatalities. Councilwoman Quaremba had heard about Vision Zero, a multi-national project to reduce traffic fatalities. Councilwoman Quaremba stated it is very difficult to devise programs for all the different kinds of bikers, but the City is trying to provide the infrastructure to have separate bicycle/pedestrian paths to reduce fatalities. Councilwoman Quaremba asked what kind of behaviors can be followed so there are no deaths at all. Councilwoman Quaremba believes an active, enthusiastic voice as well as partnering with our neighbors Estero and Collier County, will help to support the direction Council wants to go.

Councilwoman Quaremba would appreciate any suggestions the Board has on where Council should focus. An example would be popular bike routes, let Councilwoman Quaremba know and she can coordinate the maintenance along those routes.

Councilwoman Quaremba stated that Alta, the designer, walked the property along Terry Street and might be breaking ground by 2018. Mr. Gibbons explained it will be a separate off road path for bicycle/pedestrian traffic from Old 41 all the way to US 41. As well, any new development is supposed to include a bicycle/pedestrian path.

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Garrido voiced his concern stating Terry Street by the middle school is very dangerous for children. Mr. Gibbons stated that it was part of the Board's vision for Terry, how to make it safe. Ms. Baker said Terry Street was one of their biggest priority and they have been trying to get some traction for years.

Mr. Garrido also stated that near the Fairways golf course vicinity, children have to wear helmets or stay in the car waiting for the school bus because golf balls are coming across the road. The kids that wait for the bus on that corner have to stay in the car so they won't get hit with golf balls. They guys that lives on the corner cannot let his kids play outside.

Mr. David Lipman, resident of Pelican Landing, voiced his concern regarding one of their founders and long term members who was killed on Imperial Parkway. Mr. Lipman explained there was a piece of metal in the bike lane that the person in front of the deceased did not see and he went over the handlebars. Mr. Lipman said his community is getting involved on their end. Councilwoman Quaremba added their

group offered to help with traffic and bicycle counts. Mr. Lipman said to please contact him to get a group together to do traffic counts, his email is [davidlipman1948@gmail.com](mailto:davidlipman1948@gmail.com) and phone number is 207-485-2391. Mr. Lipman stated he has been part of an advocacy group in Maine called the Bicycle Coalition. Mrs. Lindsay Robin asked when Mr. Lipman's group at Pelican Landing would be meeting next and stated the Board definitely wants to engage their group and attend their meeting so they can keep informed and get things going.

#### C. Terry Street Pathway & User Survey Assistance

Mr. Gibbons reported that he met with Alta, Mr. Feeney and the team in preparation for the citizen outreach. Everyone who lives in that corridor will be informed. Mr. Feeney asked Mr. Gibbons to see if the Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board could help with the National Bicycle Pedestrian Documentation project and passed out the package to the committee. Mr. Gibbons would like a member of the Board to be there if he or Mr. Feeney cannot make it. One location is closer to 41, the other location is closer to the school and Old 41.

Bonita Bay and Pelican Landing have groups who would like to help. Mr. Gibbons would like the committee's help in coordinating with some of these groups. Mr. Gibbons suggested maybe the volunteers can cover hours where staff and Board members cannot be there. The data gathered from the count is going to help to drive the structural decisions.

Ms. Baker asked if there were any upcoming events they could piggy back on to get the word out. Ideas included:

- Farmers Market
- Literature in restaurants

#### D. Roundabout Tip Card (FDOT)

Mr. Gibbons stated that there has been a lot of questions and concerns about the roundabouts. Mr. Gibbons found a really great tip card which outlines how to use the roundabout and be respectful of pedestrians and cyclists. It is very informative and straight forward. There is a Spanish version also.

Ms. Baker asked about traffic back up. Mr. Gibbons responded it was due to people not knowing how to use it and the need for better signage. It takes about a year and a half for people to get used to it and know how to use it. You have to go through that seasonal cycle. Mr. Gibbons said having the landscaping and the signage helps the

visual of where you should go. Ms. Baker asked about the best way to educate. Ideas included:

- Giving out the tip card
- Incorporate roundabout information in their events
- Give out information in places like farmers markets.
- Have information on the City website and Facebook page.
- Better signage at the roundabout

Mr. Darren Robertshaw asked if they should we make a recommendation that the Board still feels that the roundabout intersection is unsafe for pedestrians. Mrs. Sarah Baker said there are a couple of forums on Facebook and volunteered to reach out to people via those forums.

Mr. Gibbons will reach out to Ms. Taylor, Director of Communications for the City, to see if they can get information on the roundabouts posted on the City website and Facebook.

Ms. Baker suggested keeping this topic on the agenda under Old Business for further discussion at the next meeting.

## V. OLD BUSINESS:

### A. American League of Bicyclist Membership

Mr. Gibbons reported that the Board is officially members of the American League of Bicyclists. With their online subscription, they will get copies of all the online journals. Mr. Gibbons stated that's where their pamphlets came from, they are an awesome organization. Mr. Gibbons will be our contact with the organization.

Ms. Baker reminded the Board that they cannot discuss Board business outside of a meeting per the Sunshine Law. Everything discussed must be part of public record at a meeting. If you have a questions or need to reach out, reach out to staff, Mr. Gibbons or Councilman Gibson.

### B. MPO BPC Update – Projects & “Driving Down to Zero”

Mr. Gibbons passed out copies of “Recommendation on Safety Performance Measure Targets” explaining this is FDOT’s version of Vision Zero. Mr. Gibbons stated the goal is to adopt the states safety standards and targets as their own.

Mr. Gibbons directed the Board to see the last sheet in the packet and explained that “Driving Down to Zero” or “Target Zero” is actually more comprehensive than “Vision Zero”. Mr. Gibbons explained in terms of state funding for bike path and MPO, it is

always good to use the same funding and data. This is a discussion that Council wants to have and Mr. Gibbons wanted to have it on the Board's radar. This dictates what the safety targets are for multi modal facilities comprehensive programs. Mr. Gibbons will share with Council to educate them as well.

Ms. Baker asked if the ultimate goal is to have zero fatalities. Mr. Gibbons explained that through yes through enforcement, engineering, awareness and behavior changes, the complete package. Mr. Gibbons said if anyone has any questions about it, please reach out to him.

Ms. Baker stated, at initial glance, it looks comprehensive and data driven. Mr. Gibbons said the BPCCC supported it but it has to go through other MPO committees. There will be a couple things we can apply for with MPO dollars for trails under the Sun Trail project. Another big plus would be moving up our safe routes for school priorities as well as to secure funding for the Dean Street project.

#### C. Table Cloths & Banners (Events)

Mr. Gibbons passed out a copy of what the banner backdrop would look like and explained they could put their logo in the corner. The Board would also have access to the City's table cloths. Mr. Gibbons could not find a "3 Feet Please" table cloths.

Mr. Gibbons explained the banners are about 10 feet long. He does not know if you would have the option to get a logo put in that box. Mr. Gibbons asked if the Board wanted him to move forward ordering the banners/table cloths.

Mr. Gibbons asked what verbiage the Board would like on the banners. Mr. Gibbons was not sure if they would be able to do a graphical overlay with the City logo.

The Board decided to go with "The City of Bonita Springs reminds you to watch out for bicyclists".

***Ms. Lindsay Robins made a motion to have the banners read "The City of Bonita Springs reminds you to watch out for bicyclists", Mr. Scott Schnappauf seconded; motion passed unanimously.***

Mr. Gibbons reported that the stickers were shared with the Lee County Sheriff's office and Lee Tran. City vehicles have stickers on them as well. Ms. Baker said she would bring more stickers next month from her supply, and encouraged Board members to have stickers available in their cars to give out.

#### D. Coordinated Out-Reach (Multi-Board)

Mr. Gibbons stated Mr. Altony Lee, a member of the Outreach Committee and Tree Advisory Board, is very interested in partnering with the Board. Specifically, Mr. Lee is very interested in bicycle racks in various locations. Mr. Gibbons wanted to make sure the Board is interested in partnering before he moved forward.

***The Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board unanimously concurred yes, they would like to move forward and partner with the Outreach Committee and the Tree Advisory Board.***

Mr. Gibbons stated the Tree Board is the first Monday of every month and asked if the Board would like to participate in their Arbor Day event. It is a good opportunity and the Board would have a table

***The Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board would like to participate in the Tree Advisory Board's Arbor Day Event.***

Ms. Baker advised Mr. Gibbons to add the Arbor Day event to the agenda for the meeting next month.

#### E. Bike & Pedestrian Ways (LDC Updates)

Mr. Gibbons thanked Lindsay for the amazing work she did on the Land Development Code which gives guidelines to developers, businesses and communities which they will have to abide by. Mrs. Robin and Mr. Gibbons have been working with staff on the revisions. Mrs. Robin said Mr. Gibbons had sent this out to the Board last week and are looking for feedback by tomorrow, 12/19/17.

Mr. Gibbons explained the packet handed out to the Board. The first three pages are the primary road designs; the next four pages are multi use pathways. Mr. Gibbons explained that bike lanes are 7 feet wide as opposed to 5 feet. Logistically, they are trying to acquire more space to account for changes in usage and developments, which gives the City flexibility to retrofit. Mr. Gibbons outlined the steps:

Step 1: Acquire the space and dedicate the area

Step 2: As usage progresses, there is the option to go back and retrofit as things change.

Mr. Lipman thinks 7 feet should be the norm for bike lanes.

Mr. Gibbons said the goal is to have the best possible facility going forward with the ability to augment as things change. They are pretty close to a finished product. The Board will get the packets to approve the final product. Mrs. Lindsay Robin said to send any feedback to Mr. Gibbons. Alta is also reviewing it.

Mr. Robertshaw asked do you want them to come when it goes before City Council. Ms. Baker concurred and said definitely let them know when it goes to Council. Mr. Gibbons said absolutely.

VI. ANY MEMBER ITEMS TO DISCUSS:

Mr. Schnappauf said would like to see data about where accidents that involve bicyclist and pedestrians are occurring to know where the problem areas are. Mr. Schnappauf thought maybe the Sheriff's office could supply that data. The Board discussed the recent fatality. The bike lane was not clear and since they were fast bikers and they were right behind each other they did not have time to react. They were going 20 miles per hour, unless you're five bike lengths back, you will never have time to react. The issue is the piece of metal should not have been there, the biker in front should have signaled. It's almost unavoidable, it was a small gray piece of metal very difficult to spot it on the road. It may be difficult to avoid an accident of this nature. Mr. Robertshaw stated there is risk to riding. He is seeing a lot of construction product debris. Chunks of wood, tools, gloves, metal. Dump trucks with trailers and they are right on that white line. That is why he thinks 7 feet should be the norm.

Mrs. Debbie Garrido regarding the Alta project on West Terry, is there a time line for the development of the plan. Mr. Gibbons replied that has not been established yet. As they progress forward, they will send out public notices to get public input and use that to design the plan. The ultimate goal is an off street pathway. Alta is making a design guideline book. Again the real key is what does the public want and what is feasible. The City will be reaching out to the public and they will have two workshops. Public notice will be posted in public areas. Mrs. Debbie Garrido asked if there is a possibility, in the meantime, to add some cross walks and paint on the road so people have to stop. Councilman Gibson said they spoke about doing things like putting in temporary signage and he has tried to get the cross walks and was told it wasn't necessary because there was nothing on the other side of the road. Mrs. Debbie Garrido does not want to miss the workshops and asked who she can contact. Mr. Gibbons said to email him with her contact information.

VII. ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE (January 15, 2018)

***Ms. Sarah Baker made the motion confirming the next Board meeting as January 15, 2018, Mr. Scott Schnappauf seconded; motion passed unanimously.***

Next meeting Board confirmed for January 15, 2018.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Respectively submitted,

Nadine Chiamonte

Nadine Chiamonte, Receptionist/Office Assistant

Minutes approved at the **4/16/18 Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board Meeting:**

***Mr. Schnappauf made a motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Robin seconded; motion passed unanimously.***

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Any person requiring special accommodations at any of the meetings because of a disability or physical impairment should contact Meg Weiss, Director of Administrative Services, at 239-949-6262, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

If a person decides to appeal a decision made by the Council in any matter considered at this meeting/hearing, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, to include the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.