

## Holyoke Biking and Pedestrian Committee

### Monday, May 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Price Armstrong, Elena Langdon, Kristen Sykes, Shannon Bliven, Eduardo Baez

City Staff: Aaron Vega (OPED)

1. Call to order at 6:03pm
2. Review of minutes - N/A - elena appointed to take minutes for this meeting
3. Public Participation - no comments from two ppl present
4. Bike Month Event: **May 12th 2-5pm at Nueva Esperanza (near Hampshire & Main)**
  - Price noted that Bike Month is typically in May and was officially delayed until September this year; since we already planned an event we should continue as planned, and can do another thing in September too
  - Aaron mentioned that there will be a city-wide weekend event in September with which we could help -- historic homes and businesses for tours, other attractions, restaurants, inviting people to Holyoke for the day, like a Destination Day for Holyoke tourism; no transportation provided, so people are encouraged to walk and bike around and see art, history, restaurants, etc., similar to Passport to Holyoke but not in cars
  - Kristen mentioned monthly themes - June is Bike to Local Park, July is Bike in Support of Favorite Charity -- all leading up to Bike Month
  - Shannon: flyers went out;
  - Advertising: we can do a press release -- Elena will draft one with help from Jess from MassBike (to be released a few days beforehand); funds for Facebook ads - OPED can support this (\$50) and Aaron will look into it and let Shannon know
  - Shannon will create a Facebook event - Kristen offered to help and cross-post to Instagram and their FB
  - Committee discussed prepackaged food distribution--should we distribute granola bars, for example? Price to bring some (wrapped food should be OK); Shannon will bring water; Elena to bring Gu energy gel; Kristen to bring lights
  - Price will bring email signup list
  - Shannon will be there around 1pm; Ed will be there, and Price as well; Kristen and/or Jess from MassBike will be there; Elena will be there if second vaccine hasn't left her too tired/sick; Aaron will bring his bike to get fixed :)
5. Ed suggested we have more advertising so we can attract more members to the committee
6. Event with Latinos Outdoors?
  - Could do a tour of old homes or canals
  - Perhaps something on public lands, in conjunction with Office of Sustainability, to highlight newly conserved land purchased with CPA funds (Glawtech Parcel or Scott Tower)
  - Nationals Public Lands Day is September 25 - maybe something then? - Price to reach out to Yonni (sp?)
7. Complete Streets Update → Aaron provided updates
  - High/Maple St
  - Lyman St Bridge - on track
  - South Holyoke Homes - bid for phase 1, will break down this summer

- Mass Trails - meeting on May 4th will have draft of findings, which included lots for pedestrians and cyclists; Aaron will send report to Price
- 8. Valley Bike Update - Shannon Bliven
  - Advertising funding also being looked into - and artwork is ready but cannot be posted at this point
  - City Council meets May 4th to discuss and vote on funding for 3 more stations (needs to be spent by June 30th)
- 9. Old Business
  - Kristin Sykes membership - needs to write letter to acting mayor and CC Aaron
  - Complete Streets Funding - Price needs to follow up with Mike McManus on results of this (if any)
- 10. Committee Staffing - Cynthia will be back for June meeting
- 11. New Business - Price asked Aaron about city guidelines related to when we can meet in person again -- Aaron replied that they might be hybrid and that City Hall is working on plan too; the hope is for this to happen in June
- 12. Scheduling Next Meeting - same as usual
- 13. Adjournment at 7:05pm