



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

BPAC Regular Meeting Summary

February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

NAME	REPRESENTATION
James Allen (JA)	Orange County
Beth Bell (BB)	City
Matt Cummings (MC)	Vice-Chair, City
Courtney Dunkerton (CD)	Alamance County
Katy Jones (KJ)	Chair, At Large
Jennifer Nunez (JN)	City
Allison Tate (AT)	City
Aaron Davis (AD)	Recreation and Parks Director
Ashley Ownbey (AO)	Development Director
Rachel Gaffney (RG)	City Planner

WELCOME NEW BPAC MEMBERS, BETH BELL AND COURTNEY DUNKERTON

KJ welcomed BB and CD to the BPAC. She asked them to introduce themselves and talk a little bit about their interest in the BPAC. After BB and CD introduced themselves, all of the existing BPAC members and City staff did so as well.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 22, 2024 MEETING SUMMARY

KJ asked if there were any edits to the meeting summary and none responded. KJ moved to approve the meeting summary from the January 22 meeting. JA seconded the motion.

A unanimous vote (5-0) supported approval of the meeting summaries. BB and CD abstained since they were not present at the last meeting.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT AND 2024 WORK PLAN

KJ explained that all of the BPAC members had received a copy of the annual report and work plan. This is a snapshot of the work that the Commission has done over the past year and then it makes public commitments to things that the BPAC has planned for 2024. She explained that it will be posted on the BPAC website and she asked AO if it is presented to City Council as well. AO says that has always been a little up in the air, but she said that she would ask if that would be welcome. JA said it would be good for City Council to at least have a copy of it so they are aware of what the BPAC is working on.

RG presented the draft of the annual report and asked if any of the BPAC have any suggestions. KJ suggested that since the City Council will be making a decision on the new bicycle and pedestrian transportation plan the following week, the annual report should be updated to include the actual



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

BPAC Regular Meeting Summary

February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

adoption date rather than just saying that it is anticipated to be adopted in early 2024. RG said that sounds fine, it just depends on whether the BPAC has any bigger changes that they want to review again or not. If it is just small edits then RG can make those updates next week after the City Council meeting. KJ suggested that they could also add a picture of the plan cover and a QR code so that people reading the annual report can also access the new bike and pedestrian plan. JA agreed and said that the BPAC should be doing everything they can to direct people to the new plan. He added that many times when the BPAC has a booth at Autumnfest and other communities events, they will hear that many people didn't know that Mebane had a BPAC. AO added that RG and KJ were recently quoted in a news article about the new bike and pedestrian plan and encouraged them to share it. AO added that the City's PIO had received a few compliments on the article and it is available at positivelymebane.com. AD said that the Recreation Department is planning to keep maintaining the Moving Mebane Forward webpage so copies of the plan will be available there in addition to wherever the Planning Department posts it. RG asked if community members were able to sign up for notifications on the Moving Mebane Forward website. AD said that he didn't think so but he wasn't sure. RG said that she has seen project websites for other communities where people are able to put in their email to sign up for updates. AD said he would look into it.

RG reviewed the projects that have been completed or made significant progress in 2023. AD noted that the estimated completion for the Lake Michael Connector Trail is late fall. KJ asked why the Third to Fifth Street Connector was included in the 2023 projects. RG said that it was included in the CIP for 2023-2024 and design work is currently underway. JA asked if there were any issues with easement acquisition. AO said that the proposed trail would go on private property, it is not all owned by Duke Energy, so some easements may still be needed. Since it is already in a designated right-of-way for Duke Energy with existing transmission lines that does make it a little easier as the private property owners are not really able to do anything with the property in that area. RG also summarized the bike racks the BPAC had purchased and added that the portable rack would be placed in the downtown pocket park later that week. JA asked if that was by Lou's Bakery and RG said yes. JA explained that he is going to try to convince his fellow cyclists at their next group ride to go to Lou's and leave their bikes at the bike rack. RG said that she is still working on putting together a laminated sign so that people can check in at the bike rack. AO said that AD's department has a laminating machine and AD confirmed. AD added that the Recreation Department is looking into replacing the current storage shed in the downtown pocket park. He said they will probably need to remove the existing small bike rack at the pocket park and asked the BPAC for suggestions on where it should go. JA asked if they could put it somewhere on Clay Street with all of the road improvements happening there. AO said that she is not sure what the timeline of that project is going to be exactly. AO suggested that they just hold it until they have a better idea of where it should go. KJ asked if it is concreted into the ground or is it removable. AD said he thinks it's bolted into the concrete and should be removable. KJ said that as long as they are replacing it with the bigger portable bike rack then she thinks it's fine. RG added that the location will hopefully be more noticeable as well.



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

BPAC Regular Meeting Summary

February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

RG noted that bike route map as another successful project. KJ asked if the QR code was big enough and said that she would test it. She added that she wanted to make sure it was easy for people to get to the different resources that the report is promoting. JA said that he has been occasionally looking at the ride with GPS metrics to see how many people have been looking at it, and it seems like the shorter routes have been getting more use. KJ asked what kind of volume he has seen and JA said usually the teens and twenties. MC said that they don't know if those routes are more popular because they are short or because they are in the more concentrated downtown area. JA said that they need to try to get more feedback from users. RG said that she is not sure what the best way to get that feedback would be. They could make some sort of survey but it is often difficult to get people to participate. KJ said that she thinks the important thing right now is just making sure people know those recommended routes exist. JN asked if the map is only available on the website right now. KJ and JA said that they had given out hard copies of the map at Autumnfest. JA asked if there were any more hard copies and RG said that she would have to order more. RG continued reviewing the annual report contents and noted that there had been a 50% increase in participation in the Mebane Activity Challenge from 2022 to 2023.

RG summarized the proposed goals for the 2024 work plan. RG explained that for programming and events she didn't want to commit to anything that the BPAC has not yet discussed in detail but she asked if any of the BPAC members have any additional ideas for that section. JA said that they have discussed getting more enforcement and engagement related to crosswalks and would like to have something related to safety for crossings noted there. RG suggested "coordinating with the Mebane Police Department on safety and enforcement issues". KJ said that they should have more of a discussion with the police chief and others before putting any definite language in the report. AO suggested phrasing it as "exploring partnerships". RG agreed that as long as it is sufficiently vague it should be fine. KJ added that she doesn't think there was anything they did last year that they did not want to continue this year. There are things that they would like to improve upon but nothing that they need to make major changes to.

RG summarized the capital projects planned for 2024. AO told RG that they will need to revise the section on the Crawford Street sidewalk a little as the description is not completely correct and there is another segment to the project that should be captured. AO explained that the segment underway now is at Crawford Street and Second Street and the phase that will begin later is at Crawford and First Street. JA asked if there is a design of the entire Lake Michael Connector project that they could see. JA explained that he wants to see how it will cross the creek. He also said that many of the group rides will come in on Saddle Club Road it would be useful to keep the service road that the construction vehicles have been using. AD said that service road will stay. He added it will be an important entrance for the spillway project. JA asked if it will be riprap all the time and if you would be able to take road bikes across it to the greenway. AD said he isn't sure and he doesn't think it has been discussed yet. JA said it would be useful to come off Saddle Club go across Lebanon Road and be able to get on the greenway from there. AD said he would try to find more information. RG also reviewed the three projects previously recommended by the BPAC.



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

BPAC Regular Meeting Summary

February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

CD asked if the Third to Fifth Street Connector would be going through private property. RG explained that the trail is proposed to go through the Duke Energy Easement but it is property that is owned by private residents, not by Duke Energy. CD said that her property is in that area and she wondered how that would work. AO said that the planned route primarily impacts the Breakthrough Community Church so they are the primary party that the City is negotiating with. AO clarified that the City still has to get an easement from the property owner for the greenway even if it is in the Duke Energy right-of-way. The City also had to get permission from Duke Energy and they have specific requirements for trails and how close they can be to the transmission poles. JA said that there is a single-track mountain bike trail in Greensboro that ribbons around the transmission lines and he wonders if they had to follow the same regulations. AO said that the requirement is that the trail should be at least 25 feet away. She added that there is a trail in Hillsborough that clearly doesn't meet that requirement so there may also have been exceptions in the past.

RG finished reviewing the projects in the work plan and JA asked about the proposed project to turn 8th Street into a bike boulevard. RG said that they had talked about having that as a discretionary fund project but they may also need some more information from the Public Works Director to make that decision. RG explained that is why it wasn't included as a recommendation on the CIP because it was being considered as a discretionary fund project. AO added that the 8th Street Bike Boulevard was also reviewed as a cutsheet in the new bike and ped plan and the consultants had recommended that the City look into traffic calming measures at certain locations along that route. The initial conversation that AO had with the Public Works Director, which was some time ago, is that because the road transitions from NCDOT maintenance to City maintenance, that makes the project a little more complicated. AO suggested that they wait to explore the project further until after the plan update is adopted. She thinks that it will be a lower cost capital project but if there are any intersection improvements that might help slow traffic down or help drivers be more aware of bicyclists then they may want to include them in the project.

RG noted that they have identified several items that need to be edited so she asked that if they have any further ideas in the next 1-2 weeks to email them to her. She said that she would plan to make the requested changes and then they can officially adopt the report and work plan at the next meeting. KJ asked RG to confirm that they should send any additional comments in the next 2 weeks as a firm deadline. RG agreed that would be good. AO added that, since they are talking about capital projects, the City is beginning the first stage of public meetings related to the budget. She explained that they will have a conversation with BPAC, likely in March or April, about what is being presented to Council. If any BPAC members have an interest in the budget process there will be department presentations in March before their next meeting. Departments will present on March 14th and March 21st. She added that the meetings will probably be livestreamed. KJ explained that if there are any specific projects that the BPAC members feel passionate about (preferably from the approved plan, but not required to be) then they should plan to discuss it at



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

BPAC Regular Meeting Summary

February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

the next meeting. She clarified that projects involving paint and other small improvements can be accomplished with discretionary funds but any projects that involve engineering or design will be considered capital projects. AO explained that what is going before Council this year probably isn't going to change but as the BPAC starts thinking about projects for next year it is good to hear the conversations that are happening, items that will not be funded this year, or it might help inspire new ideas.

DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

KJ asked how much money the BPAC has and AO responded that they still have \$10,000. The BPAC hasn't spent any discretionary funds yet this fiscal year. JA asked if they ever got a price tag on the green paint for the bike boulevard pavement markings. AO said that the Public Works Director has had a death in the family so she has not been able to coordinate with him prior to this meeting. She asked the BPAC to come up with a few ideas for discretionary fund projects so that they have some options. She knows that JA and others are interested in pursuing paint and signs for bike boulevards. She added that AT had previously mentioned curb ramps at two intersections near the library as a possible discretionary project idea. She explained that staff had previously hoped that they might be able to coordinate with the developers of the old Kingsdown property as they will also be making some improvements in the area. However, that project is not moving as quickly as was previously anticipated and staff is not sure if those improvements will be made in this fiscal year or not. That could be one that the City might be able to fund this fiscal year or it might make more sense to wait and coordinate with those developers. KJ asked what the deadline is for them to use the funds. AO said that the BPAC should make a decision at their March meeting as she will need to get a purchase order and coordinate the project.

AO said it does depend on what they choose. If they want to focus more on a promotional campaign then that would require less planning than a more physical project. KJ said that signs to promote what the BPAC is working on, and biking and walking in general, are definitely an option that she is interested in. JA agreed that they have gotten a lot of positive feedback on the yard signs. Several of his neighbors have signs for Mebanites on bikes and kids in the neighborhood really like them. They are very good for catching people's attention. He added that it would be great to have signs that would direct people to new infrastructure, sidepaths, sidewalks, crossings, etc. KJ said that she really likes the idea of using signs to highlight new projects. They would be reusable. JA said that it would call people's attention to what the City's working on. KJ agreed that it is a very "your tax dollars at work" type of promotion. JA said that the signage was also really effective for the Cycle NC ride. KJ asked if they had an audit of what signs they currently have. AD explained that there are many signs in the storage shed at the MACC but he doesn't know how many. KJ said that so far when they need them, they seem to always have enough. RG explained that the planning department puts the signs out at all the parks in May for National Bike Month, but the signs in storage exceed the number needed for that. CD said that she'd be happy to post a yard sign on her property. There are always lots of people running and walking on her street. JA said that the signs they made previously focused more on cycling so the next batch of signs should



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

BPAC Regular Meeting Summary

February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

be more pedestrian focused. KJ suggested they should look for some examples of language around slowing down for pedestrians and put them around schools, Fifth Street, etc. KJ said they could also ask law enforcement what they would consider to be high speed problem areas or where there have been crashes.

KJ said that she was not on the BPAC when those signs were designed and asked what the process was. AO said that Sylvia had led that effort. She thinks that they developed different slogan ideas and then worked with a sign company on the design. AD agreed that Sylvia did most of that work. AO suggested that they begin with generating ideas of what they would like to see on a sign and then they can look into next steps. The content would likely need to be approved by City administration. The police department may need to be involved as well. JA asked what kind of timeframe would they be looking at, a couple of months? AO said that sounds reasonable if the BPAC can generate ideas before the next meeting then they talk about it more then. AO said she can find out who designed the signs previously. KJ said it would be nice to use the same company again so that they have a consistent style. The current signs have a very City of Mebane vibe. It was a good design. AO added that if they still have the existing designs and just need to tweak them then that may be a lower cost. AO said that she needs to get a purchase order in by the middle of May so they would need a firm design approved by their April meeting. RG suggested that they could look at what some of the bicycle and pedestrian safety organizations have for promotional safety materials. It might help them get ideas of slogans. KJ suggested doing something around bike to school and walk to school day and then the BPAC could coordinate with the schools to put signs out. It might also encourage the schools to take on some planned events around walking or biking to school. AO suggested that they might want to look at materials other than signs as well, like stickers. There was general agreement. KJ asked what the other members think about using their discretionary funds on a promotional campaign. CD asked if there would be a social media component as well and KJ agreed there would be. JA asked if schools still have bulletin boards where there can be community announcements and posters. BB and CD said no, there aren't a lot of announcement boards anymore. KJ suggested maybe they could see if some posters could be put up around the office. KJ said that she has a few close friends that are teachers and administrators. She suggested that she could ask them what would be useful. JA suggested having posters advertising Mebane Activity Challenge with the different challenges identified. KJ suggested that they design it with a fill in date so that they can reuse the design. CD suggested getting magnetic stickers for cars. KJ said that there was either a national or North Carolina campaign that came out around bicycle and pedestrian safety that was framed as drivers supporting pedestrians and cyclists. RG asked if it was a "I brake for bikes" type message and KJ agreed that was the idea. BB suggested that type of campaign would work really well for highschoolers. They drive, and many of them are not very good at driving yet, so raising the issue of watching for bicyclists and pedestrians would be a good way to engage with them. JA said that when he did more road racing, there was a fellow road racer that was killed, Adam Little. An Adam Little Foundation was created after his death and they had gatherings and group rides to honor him. The Foundation also made bumper stickers saying "3 feet – give space for bikes" with the



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

BPAC Regular Meeting Summary

February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Adam Little Foundation on it. It was a very eye-catching design. KJ suggested coming up with something specific to Mebane or Mebanites. That might be more exciting to local residents than a more generic slogan. JA suggested that they should also create stickers and magnets to match the designs of the yard signs that they are wanting to create. CD said that she really likes that idea. Consistency with branding can really help get a message out. KJ agreed that sounds good and said that hopefully the company that previously created the signs can also do stickers and other items.

JN asked what the BPAC gave away at the last bike rodeo, besides helmets. KJ said that she bought some fun stickers on Amazon that were various types of food and fruit on bikes. JN asked about reflectors. KJ said that in a previous career she had given out motion lights, which are more easily visible than static lights or reflectors. There are all sorts of arm and leg bands available. JN suggested maybe bells as well and asked if it is possible to put the Mebane logo on any of those items. KJ said that they might need approval to use the city logo. AD said that he didn't think they would really need to get approval for that. He said that as long as he and AO see it first, it should be fine. KJ said it would be nice to invest in some nicer giveaways. Everything they have used before has either been through a grant or very low cost. CD asked about hosting a bike tune up workshop and KJ responded that they usually do that at the bike rodeo. AO suggested that the City does not currently have any public bike repair stations and that might be something to look into. KJ asked if that was something they could put in the pocket park. She said she really likes that idea. AO said that she doesn't know how much they cost but she could look into it. AD asked if the pocket park is a good place for that. JA said it is because it is centrally located, paved, and City owned. There's no traffic, either car or pedestrian. AD asked how much space it would need and JA estimated about 4 square feet. RG looked up a few examples of bike repair stations online. JA suggested that having one at the Community Park and one at the downtown pocket park would work really well. AD said that they are planning to replace the storage shed in the pocket park and suggested some locations in the park where a repair stand could potentially go. KJ asked staff to look into bike repair stand options and present some recommendations at the next meeting. KJ said she feels like they have some really good ideas. The BPAC should research and plan out some of these options and then make a decision at the next meeting.

AO said that she had wanted to bring up to the BPAC that she and RG had a meeting with the safety committee of the Burlington-Graham MPO recently. They have funding available, probably for next fiscal year, and they want to work with the Mebane BPAC to expand the bike rodeo and make it bigger and better. They would probably want to make it more of a regional event. The BGMPO will be hiring a new director, as the current one is retiring, so there will need to be some further conversations. KJ asked if the bike rodeo would still be held in Mebane. AO said that they need to discuss that further with the MPO and what more of a regional approach would mean. It could potentially be held in multiple locations or organized into a larger fair. JA said that he would want to make sure that increasing to a more regional event would not take it away from Mebane. They don't want to lose the support of local residents. AO added that Mebane's police department likes to have it in Mebane and she thinks other municipalities would likely feel the same.



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

BPAC Regular Meeting Summary

February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

NEW AND ONGOING BUSINESS

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

RG explained that they had discussed the AARP grant at the last meeting. There were some discussions about looking at the lighting in the Community Park but the grant is due in a couple of weeks. AD asked if it would be for additional solar lights like the ones already existing. KJ said yes for the back area of the park. AD said that one of the benefits of adding more walking path lights is they would not have to turn on the security lights for the field. Right now the lights are on all of the time. The problem is that they are very bright so after 11pm when the park is closed, people will use those lights to still goof around in the park. If the solar lights were placed all along the walking path they would illuminate the path but not the field. That may keep people from staying in the park after hours. JA asked if the entry gate comes down at night. AD said that it does but it doesn't keep people from coming in. Many people just walk in. AO explained that the sidewalk project that they had previously discussed as a possibility for this grant isn't feasible because the work has to be completed within about 6 months (June to December) per the requirements of the grant program. The park lighting had been the BPAC's second choice for project ideas.

AO asked AD if the lights would be a feasible project. AD said that it sounds like a great project but he's not sure if he has time to put the grant application together. He thinks that Gamasonic is where they bought the lights before. RG brought up the grant application and AO commented that it doesn't look that difficult. AD said that one question is how many lights would they need. AO asked if Public Works is working on any projects related to lighting at the community park. AD said that they were just looking at parking lot lights right now. RG noted that the application requires three deliverables, so it couldn't just be for lights. KJ suggested that they could make the lights the centerpiece and add some programming and events around the project to fulfill the requirements. RG said they had previously discussed some sort of older adult walking program or event. AD asked how much the grant is for. RG said that the average is just under \$12,000. AD said that previously they had spent \$30,000 on the lights and an additional \$30,000 on the installation of the lights. The installation fee included the footers for each light and they know now that those footers were larger than what was really needed. Getting smaller footers would hopefully lower the cost but since the cost of everything has increased significantly since the lights were previously installed it's hard to estimate. KJ asked if the original lights included the driveway as well and AD indicated that they may have. KJ suggested that they may need far fewer lights for the section of the walkway that they are proposing now. AD and JA said that based on aerial imagery there are currently 7 lights on the walkway. RG asked if the existing solar lights can get brighter than what they are. AD said no, that's the highest setting. RG responded that they may need a lot of lights then, since they are relatively dim. JA asked if the connector over to Woodlawn was still budgeted. AD said that project is currently out for bid. KJ and JA asked if it was a parking lot. AD said it would be 50 spaces with lighting and an automatic gate. JA said that should add some lighting to the lower part but they probably still need some more lights around the retention pond. RG responded that there are lights in that area but they are pretty dim. She usually thinks it's fine but



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

BPAC Regular Meeting Summary

February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

she has heard others complaining. KJ said that the problem is that it is both dark and isolated. It feels more dangerous because you are farther away from where most people are. RG agreed that when you are on the path near the retention pond it isn't possible to see over the berm. JA agreed that he always needs a headlamp when he is in that area at night. KJ said that the main question is can they complete the grant application and as a subcomponent of that, is the grant amount, max \$50,000, enough for what they are proposing? AD said that he would like to keep things consistent, with the same gap between the lights. From there he can figure out the number of lights they need. AO asked if the company could do a quote quickly. AD said that he thinks he could get a quote for the lights quickly but the installation cost would likely take more time. JA asked if it would have to go out for bid. AD said it depends on the cost. If it is under \$30,000, they likely wouldn't need to. JA said that he thinks it's worth looking into further. AO asked AD if he could look into quotes. She explained that they would work on it, and if they can meet the March 15th deadline that will be great. If they can't then they will plan to pursue it more next year. RG said that it appears to be an annual grant and should be available around the same time next year.

RG provided an update on some trail related grants. The Complete the Trails grant is the only one open currently. It is only available to municipalities with less than 25,000 people and which are located within 6 miles of a designated state trail. A project in Mebane would have to connect to the Mountains-to-Sea Trail. This grant can only be used for natural surface trails so that would be more the Recreation and Parks Department's purview. AD said that he is proposing money in this year's budget to complete the Lake Michael Trails, which would connect to the Mountains-to-Sea Trail. AO asked if he is planning to apply for this grant. AD explained that he also has money proposed in his budget to hire a grant writer. They would be looking at applying for grants next fiscal year. AD explained that when they were first designing the Connector Trail it was going to be Chapel Hill gravel and a bridge and it was going to be \$100,000. Now the actual cost of the project has been about \$400,000 and it is a fully engineer sidewalk/greenway. JA asked what cause the change and AD said he wasn't completely sure. JA explained that he has advocated for the Holt Street Greenway to be a gravel trail first and then paved later, but there seems to be a push for more pave trails, maybe to be ADA compliant? AD explained that completing the trail around Lake Michael seems to have also gotten significantly more complicated. JA asked if there was also an issue with one of the adjacent property owners objecting to the trail. AD explained that there had been some discussions with a new property owner that had not been informed of the planned trail extension by the previous owner and had some objections. AD explained that there is a marshy area just past the existing trail and the bridges and boardwalks needed to cross that area will probably be a large part of the project cost.

RG explained that there are two other grant programs opening in March. One, the Great Trails State Program, may only be available this year, unless that state legislature provides more funding. There is \$25 million available and the max grant request will be \$500,000. There will be a minimum but it hasn't been released yet. The official notification is coming out March 1st. The exciting thing about this grant is that it is available for all trail types. The deadline is September 3rd.



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

BPAC Regular Meeting Summary

February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

JA asked if this grant program could be used for the Lake Michael Trail since it doesn't have as much of a tight deadline. AD said that if they have the grant specialist he is asking for by then they could potentially apply for it. KJ asked when they would know if it is in the budget and AD said that they should know by about June 10th. KJ said that if he is able to get both the money for the project and the grant specialist then that could be a compelling match for a grant application. Extending the trail would be really great for the community. JA added that it would coincide well with the near completion of the Connector Trail. JA asked if the Lake Michael Trail project is contingent on the dam project. AD said that the final design of the spillway is not complete but they have talked about having a path that would go over the spillway. That is still a possibility but not a sure thing. JA explained that if they tie in the Lake Michael Trail project to the Connector then they don't have to worry about needing a trail over the spillway. The Connector serves as a possible connection to complete the loop. JA asked AO if there is any timeline for Tupelo Junction finishing the multi-use path connection. It looks like Stagecoach Corner has finished their piece. AO explained that the multi-use path will need to be underway if not completed before they can plat their next phase. However, they haven't started site work on their next phase yet, so she is not sure what their timeline will be. Platting means that they have all of the utilities and streets in and they're ready to proceed to building permits. They haven't started any of that site work yet. AO said that it would be nice if they would complete it since the one at Stagecoach Corner is done but it's up to the developer at this point. JA agreed that tying it all into the Lake Michael Connector and having all of those neighborhoods connected will be very cool.

RG explained that the last program is the Recreational Trails Program. It is focused primarily on trails for recreation and it is available every year. KJ wondered if the Community Park lighting could be funded by the Recreational Trails Program. Is the grant only for physical trails or can supporting facilities be included. RG brought up the grant information. The grant details indicate that trailhead facilities, including restrooms, may be included in grant funding. It seems possible that lighting may be eligible but not certain from the information provided. RG said that she thinks it would count as a recreational trail at least. She said that this is something that they could look into further.

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

RG explained that the update is primarily that the plan update is going before City Council for approval next week. She and AO will be working with Stewart to get all of the final deliverables. Those would be the plan itself and also GIS files to help with mapping and tracking. They are hoping to develop an online map that will be available to the public and that will also help staff track projects. KJ asked if there will be printed copies of it. AO said that they would be printing some.

RG said that one thing that she wanted to add that isn't on the agenda is that Dogwood Festival is coming up very soon. JA asked what the date is and KJ said it is April 27th. KJ explained that they usually have a booth. They often have giveaways and for the last year or so they have also tried to



Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commission

BPAC Regular Meeting Summary

February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

solicit public feedback, largely for the plan update. KJ said that they should get moving on securing a booth. AD said that he would reach out to the organizers. JA said that the poster size maps were a big hit at the last festival. KJ explained that they usually will circulate sign up lists for volunteers, it's typically a two-hour shift. KJ asked for confirmation that is just a one day festival. RG said it is. Last year it rained on the planned date, so they had it on Sunday which was the rain date. KJ explained that Dogwood kicks off their social media campaign that they do for National Bike Month. KJ said that they have all of the content from last year, she'll just need to organize and refresh it.

RG said that they should plan to talk about the Activity Challenge at their next meeting. They should think about if there is anything they would like to change from last year. They should also talk about prizes as they had wanted to do something bigger this year. KJ asked if it was correct that they couldn't buy anything for the giveaway. AO clarified that they cannot buy something to raffle to just one winner. They can buy things to give to everyone. JA reminded everyone that he had suggested connecting with a local business to see if they would donate something for a prize. JN asked what the Activity Challenge involved exactly. KJ explained that there were 6 activities, there had been 5 but they added one last year. Participants had to take selfies of themselves completing at least 4 of the activities to complete the challenge. RG brought up a copy of the Activity Challenge flyer and reviewed the challenges. KJ said that they would launch it at Dogwood and it would go through October 1st. They would give the prizes away at Autumnfest or mail it if needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Meeting summary prepared by Rachel Gaffney, City Planner.