

**Fairhope Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee**  
**Nix Center**  
**April 1, 2015**

Attendees: Jane Finger, Jeff Hudson, Irene Wegner, Nancy Milford, Chris Riley, Katie Bolton, Mike Groutt.

**Review of Minutes from March Meeting.** No changes; approved as written.

**New Business.**

- 1.) Report on the Bike Friendly Communities educational events from March 25 sponsored by the Baldwin County Trailblazers. Four events around downtown Fairhope, including:
  - a. Breakfast meeting aimed at local businesses, topic—Economics of bicycle tourism (nationally-known speakers/consultants/bloggers Russ Roca and Laura Crawford; 20-25 people attending, though the only Fairhope business represented was Pro Bike and Tri; Mayor Kant met with the speakers and provided welcome remarks.)
  - b. Bike ride around downtown Fairhope (Roca and Crawford, along with 18-20 local cyclists, toured downtown locales to get an understanding of the bikeability of Fairhope, and introduce them to the amenities and businesses likely to draw tourists to the area).
  - c. Bicycle Advocacy luncheon, aimed at people from the area who are interested in riding bicycles for transportation, recreation, or travel, to help them work with local leaders to develop bicycle-friendly policies and facilities. (Presented by Preston Tyree, former education director for the League of American Bicyclists; 20-25 people attended.)
  - d. Public Meeting, topic—Bicycle Friendly: What Does It Mean and Why Does it Matter?" (Steve Clark, Bicycle Friendly Communities coordinator for the League of American Bicyclists, as well as Roca and Crawford; about 20 people attended).
- 2.) Eastern Shore MPO Sidewalk and Bicycle Facilities Map.
  - a. Staff of the Eastern Shore MPO provided the Fairhope Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee with a large scale map showing all sidewalks and bicycle facilities in the Fairhope area. This map will serve as a useful tool as members of the committee begin to identify priority areas to close gaps in the walking and biking network, to develop new routes to provide for a more comprehensive non-motorized transportation network, and to evaluate requests from members of the public for new facilities.
  - b. Nancy Milford presented a Fairhope map showing a proposed bicycle network in the central portion of Fairhope. This proposed network provides the beginnings of a more comprehensive network in and around Fairhope.
- 3.) Fairhope Bike-Ped Committee "Wish List."
  - a. Mayor Kant, in his visit to a previous committee meeting, suggested that the committee come up with a "wish list" to help the city prioritize the many requests for sidewalks and other bike-ped facilities that come in from residents.
  - b. Molly Peterson and Jane Finger have come up with a draft list with submitted items.

- c. Katie Bolton suggested adding a sidewalk along Twin Beach from Greeno Rd. to St. Hwy. 181.
  - d. Irene Wegner suggested a sidewalk connecting Homestead Village with Fairhope Ave.
  - e. Committee will develop a consolidated "wish list." All committee members should send suggestions/recommendations to Mike Groutt no later than April 10. Suggestions can then be grouped into categories and prioritized.
  - f. Chris Riley will contact Lisa Hanks to find out about putting the Bike-Ped Committee on the City Council Work Session agenda for an upcoming meeting to provide an overview of the "wish list" and other work the committee will be doing.
- 4.) Bike Valet at Arts and Crafts Festival and Earth Day.
- a. Bike Valet at Arts and Crafts operated a bike corral for the three days of the festival. In addition, volunteers assisted the city in managing the handicapped parking lot behind the Fairhope Welcome Center. Turnout for the bike parking seemed to be in line with last year. Molly Peterson can provide numbers at a future meeting.
  - b. Bike parking will also be available at the Earth Day celebration at the Fairhope Pier on April 18. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Molly Peterson at the Baldwin County Trailblazers website.
- 5.) Walk Friendly Community Application. Nancy Milford has been working on the application package; however, a new version of the application is now available. Nancy will review the information that has already been collected and see how it fits into the new application. She will also work with Chief of Police Pettus to see if someone with the police department can help fill out that section of the application.
- 6.) Bike Parking. Chris Riley will contact Jennifer Fidler to check on the status of adding bicycle parking in locations around downtown locations that were identified previously.
- 7.) Social Media. Chris Riley will talk to Sherry Sullivan to see about establishing a social media presence for the Fairhope Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee. Chris will take the lead.
- 8.) Walking School Bus Recognition. The walking school bus at Fairhope Elementary is the first daily walking school bus in the state. Jane Finger recommended exploring the possibility of having the city recognize the school for this accomplishment. Chris Riley will take the lead and discuss how to move forward with Sherry Sullivan.
- 9.) Other: Jeff Hudson mentioned that the Alabama Legislature is currently looking at a 3-foot passing law.

**Next Meeting.** Tentatively set for Wednesday, May 13, 2015; 4:00 p.m., at the Nix Center.