

Bike to the Future Monthly Meeting

February 13th, 2007

Eco-Centre

Present:

Molly McCracken, Curt Hull, Phil Roadley, Alain Foidart, Ben Goldstein, Lisa Halstead, Gareth Simons, Gord McGonigal, Jeremy Hull, Don English, Kevin Miller, Janice Lukes, Rob Cosco, Anders Swanson, Cory Bellhouse, Mark Cohoe

Regrets: Tim Hunt, Daniel Gravenor

1. Welcome Introductions and announcements

- Rob Cosco received a letter from the Mayor of Winnipeg. The PDF is attached and will be put on the website.
- See the Letter in Appendix of these minutes.

ACTION: Letter to be scanned and put on website

- **One Green City**
 - www.onegreencity.com
 - See the City of Chicago Bike Plan – available to download from the One Green City website and on Wiki
 - See the One Green City Update in Appendix of these minutes.

2. Monthly meeting day and time

- After a discussion about the Monthly Meeting Date and time we decided that we will keep this date and time for now, but will revisit the issue later on if it is still an issue.

3. Reports from groups

a) City Committee – Rob

- As a result of presentations that have been made, the Mayor and Councillor Clement have said that all infrastructure building repairs etc should and will make provisions for cycling and active transportation. They were taking into consideration cycling. This is new information to us and we are unclear as to what this means. BTTF sent a letter to Bill Larken to start a dialogue with public works about getting some low cost solutions implemented. No response yet as to whether they're willing to meet with us to discuss some of this.
- Committee met with Anders Swanson from One Green City (OGC) to make sure BTTF and OGC were both aware of what we both are doing so our messages are united. We all need time to look at what Anders is doing in detail – Anders has been asked to do a separate meeting so we can get a clear look at where OGC is going.

- Suggestion has been made to contact MB Hydro to discuss their connection and linkages to Marconi and WinSmart. The committee has spoken with Tom Goldsmith about this, but he is more interested in looking at general linkages to downtown rather than specifically the new Hydro building. He is interested in working with Downtown Biz to see if there can be a larger group working towards the development of cycling routes into the downtown core area.
- Recommendations have been made on the AT implementation strategy by Roman Manastersky. Janice Lukes has spoken with him and he indicated the recommendations are now in the political “black hole” at City Hall and may get tied up for awhile. There is no word about when it might be voted on at the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works.
- Janice was talking to Roman Manastersky about the balance of trail money and how it is going to be administered. This should be tabled at the April 1st Standing Policy Committee on Public Works Meeting. This is where they will announce and vote as to how they see the balance of the funding being spent.
- Waverley is being built up between Bishop Grandin and Bison Drive. WTA (Winnipeg Trails Association) wants to see something included there as it relates to active transportation

ACTION: Anders to set a time to give an in-depth presentation about One Green City.

b) Provincial committee – Jackie, Jeremy, Molly, Alain, Mark

- Provincial Committee met with Steve Ashton, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs. The conversation was a general get to know who we are and how we can work together to further cycling in Winnipeg by working collaboratively with the Province of Manitoba. It was indicated that they have very little control or power over what takes place within the perimeter, but that we should look at making some recommendations on the Highway Traffic Act and could work more closely with MPI to advance cycling education in the province. Bike to the Future requested the development of a Provincial Bike Policy.
- See notes from January meeting with Steve Ashton in Appendix of these minutes
 - A brief discussion about the Highway Traffic Act ensued:
 - there may not be a lot to sink our teeth into in the Act, but we could look at where bike paths meet roads and having fluid crossings for cyclists
 - Curt Hull suggested that we should contact Climate Change and Green Initiatives to talk about their commitment for GHG reduction. They are in the process of making their workplan and budgets for the coming year, so there may be some way we can capitalize on this and form a partnership.
 - **Contact would be Jane Gray**
- The BTTF Provincial Committee has an upcoming meeting with Minister of Healthy Living, Kerri Irvine-Ross on January 26th, 2007.

c) **Communications / Media Relations / Website – Ben Goldstein**

- This committee met to discuss actions to improve the website
 - They hope to have a discussion forum in place of the listserv
 - They would like to create a web-based infrastructure for content development on the website – the committee chairs for the various BTTF committees will have the power to add content directly to the website instead of asking Daniel or Alain to do that.
 - They would like to create a new front page and infrastructure for the website which can be more friendly for folks coming to the website for information. Right now it is more used for our own uses, but it can also be an outreach tool, so making some changes would act to make it more effective.
 - The website would have sections for different users that might come for different information, for example: political users, activists, public works and planners etc...
 - We have a skilled group of people working on this committee, so it should be super cool.

NB (THIS IS IMPORTANT!): If you have website updates, send them to Alain or Daniel, but please indicate where it should go on the website and give them 48 hours of notice. In the subject line, please indicate “document for web or please post to web”. If you do not do this, your items may not be posted.

- As an organization if we want to get our name out there, we need to make a ‘hooplah’ and get media attention for the launch of bike season – target can be April / May time frame.
- LOGO: we need to discuss the logo – we are in trademark violation and it is quite recognizable, which may not be to our advantage.

ACTION: We will have a collaborative process for logo development on **Thursday March 2nd, 5:30 pm onward at the Eco-Centre (BYOB and it’s a potluk, so bring food!)**. At this time we will discuss our spring/summer plans and will delve into the logo. We will invite anyone to come and submit their logo designs. We will discuss them and hopefully come up with something that will work.

d) **Governance - Gord**

- Need to start thinking about membership and volunteer database to manage the intake of volunteers

e) **Membership - Molly**

- We need someone who is passionate about memberships to act as a representative or “chair” of the membership committee.

- Ben has created a draft form, but we can't move forward with development until we finalize a logo.
- Kim Marr is interested in being on the committee, Alain can help with design of the form and database, and may have a lead on printing, Jackie will be involved with the committee too, and Molly is keen.

ACTION: Anyone interested in working with the membership committee should step right up! Send your name to Molly or Jackie.

4. Reports from Public Committees / Trails Development

a) WinSmart – Gareth

- First meeting went well. City was open-minded. They are using a collaborative approach and there are about 4 cyclists on the committee. One thing is that is only the first phase and they want to go further south eventually. The momentum is there from the city, but there are some challenges. The discussion was general – they wanted to canvas different ideas of what they can do. Original plan was Churchill Drive to the Forks; they are open to using the route behind the transit garage if they can make an arrangement with the developer on the MTS site. Did discuss linkages at the top and bottom of the path. Discuss to linking it with a path on the western side rather than the eastern side of the railway tracks. They want to keep the scope focused on the pathway, but there is some reservation as to how far they can go with the current budget. They are hoping to hire a consultant – and they may use the ones that transit has – as soon as they have done that there will be further meetings. It would be great to have an official link over the bridge at Pembina to connect with the southward bound lane of Pembina. They are open to suggestions and they can be sent to Gareth and/or Tim. There is more information on the Pembina Cycling Blog - Gareth will post this information to the website.
- Linkages will be limited initially, but any development will have to have a neighbourhood development plan that includes linkages.

ACTION: Anyone with suggestions about WinSmart should contact Gareth or Tim.

ACTION: Gareth to post information about this development to the BTTF website.

b) RENN-TC (Marconi)

- Things are happening on Marconi – they have it started and the problem is that there is no connectivity to the south end. They have contacted different important people to discuss possible routes through old St. Boniface to Downtown.
- Unsure whether the railway will uphold their agreement to explore connectivity on railway property.
- There will be another meeting before the beginning of March. The people of St. Boniface think it is a great idea to connect Marconi to downtown and would like to see the connectivity aspect move forward.

c) Disraeli

- \$91M to have Disraeli revamped by the city
- Phil Roadley went to the Disraeli Meeting on behalf of “Cyclists”. It was a general introduction and history of the plans to revitalize the freeway. E-mail what the vision of the cyclist committee is for that bridge. Most people around the table were talking about cycling and in March there will be a vision presented of what their vision is of it and we will bring the cyclists vision and they will try and build a consensus about both parties want. Cycling will be planned in that, but we need to e-mail our tidbits about this to Phil. Lilith McCae – Kevin to contact her to put her in touch with Phil.
- Book of Knowledge and standards would be helpful here! Information should be sent to Phil by the end of the month. People should send them to Kevin and he will compile them to send to Phil.

ACTION: Send ideas and comments about vision for the redevelopment of Disraeli. This can follow “best-practices”. Send your comments by end of February to Kevin Miller and he will consolidate them for Phil Roadley.

ACTION: Kevin Miller to put Lilith McCae and Phil Roadley in touch.

d) Bishop Grandin Greenway - Janice

- Well on the way to completing BGG-East
- BGG-West committee is just forming. They are creating a steering committee at **Thursday February 15th, at 7pm at Kerri Irvine-Ross’ office** to create a steering committee for the development of the western link. This meeting is open to those who want to take on an active roll in the development of this trail.

ACTION: Those interested should attend planning meeting on Thursday February 15th, 2007 at Kerri Irvine-Ross’ office. Contact Janice Lukes from WTA for more information.

e) Winnipeg South Central Trail Committee – Anders, Daniel, Janice

- WTA is a group of stewardship groups and wants to do International Trails Day in Winnipeg. June 3rd, 2007. 1st Saturday in June. They have *in motion* funding and many trails groups are keen to be involved in this. It’s a focus to get everyone active and get a media event around this. It’s the beginning of Commuter Challenge – would we be interested in doing an event? There may be some money available to do this. It’s a great partnering opportunity and there would be things set up at the Forks in the Oneida Celebration Circle to meet us – with some bands, food etc. They want the province to proclaim “Trails Day”. We could do a mass ride. There is advertising money – there’s the opportunity to have our name moved forward.

5. Discussion Items

MPI and Safety – Jeremy

- See Jeremy's notes on MPI and Education in the Appendix of these minutes.
- Should we sort through these and submit some concise ideas or should we make something that is more fluid and brainstorming?
- Get Don to send his notes on this as well.
- Mandatory Bike Education
- Curt has known Marilyn for quite some time and he can contact Marilyn directly. The committee will make a meeting with her and Don, Curt or Jeremy are the contacts for this. The provincial committee and city committee will be put on this list of contacts for this.

ACTION: Curt Hull to contact Marilyn from MPI to arrange a meeting.

WTA joint project

- Poster for International Trails Day is in the Appendix of these minutes.
- International Trails Day possible partnership (See above).

Strategic Planning

- Followup and planning for next year.
 - It's a good idea to meet as a group to talk about our spring and summer events? We don't have summer action plan yet, so we should meet as a group to talk about this before we commit to anything like the Trail's Day.
 - We talked with the Commuter Challenge Coordinators about doing something on the Esplanade Riel for the Commuter Challenge.
 - Planning for spring and summer is something we should talk about eventually – maybe we should set a time for a side meeting day to discuss this.

SPRING/SUMMER STRATEGIZING MEETING AND LOGO-JAM

Eco-centre

Thursday March 1st, 2007

5:30 pm – 9:00 pm (at the latest)

It's a potluck! Bring food to share and BYOB...

(That's right it's going to be fun!)

Next Bike to the Future General Meeting is March 13th,

2007 at the Eco-Centre

3rd Floor, 303 Portage Avenue (above MEC)

5:30 pm – 7:00(ish)pm.