

Bike to the Future Monthly Meeting minutes

Tuesday, December 11, 2007, 5:30 PM at the Eco-Centre

Present: Jackie Avent Kevin Miller Dave Elmore Jeremy Hull Ben Goldstein Dave Elmore
Karin Kliewer Rob Cosco Shannon Keys Ted Mann Don English Debbie Shkolny
Charlie Thrift Vivek Voora Aaron Marshall Ray Yuen Anders Swanson (arrived at 6:30)
Cory Bellhouse Ken Klassen Guy Madill (all three left at 6:30)

Regrets: Mark Cohoe Curt Hull Dave Hubbard Janice Lukes

Jackie Avent chaired the meeting. Kevin Miller took minutes.

1. Agenda – Jackie Avent

- We're going to try an "emerging agenda", which is to identify high priority items and discuss each one at the beginning for ~5 minutes:
 - See items 2 to 7.

2. Provincial Committee, Budget Submission – Jeremy Hull

- Mark Cohoe, Anders Swanson, Janice Lukes, Beth McKechnie, Jackie Avent, and Jeremy Hull have produced a document. (This document will eventually be posted on our website. For more info, to obtain a draft copy, or to get involved with the Provincial Committee, please contact us at contact@biketothefuture.org.)
 - A major recommendation is that 5% of the provincial roads budget should go towards cycling.
 - The document is a major statement of what Bike to the Future (BttF) is advocating for, so people should review it if they are interested or have any concerns.
 - Also, Anders and Janice's have asked for a meeting with the NDP government's caucus (as per MLA Rob Altemeyer's suggestion).
- There was some discussion, and Jeremy answered a few questions.

3. UofWinnipeg SUNSET project, Cycling Survey – Ray Yuen

- The survey is ready. Ray briefly talked about it, and passed out paper copies. **Ben will ensure the Cycling Survey will be posted on our website as an interactive form.** Kevin will inform our 300 members/supporters via our Announcements list when that is done.

4. CN Oak Point corridor rezoning – Ken Klassen

- The CN Oak Point corridor is a north-south abandoned rail line that extends from Portage Avenue across the Assiniboine River to Grant Avenue, ~400m east of Kenaston Blvd. It once extended north of Portage Avenue (west of St James Street), but that land was sold in pieces, primarily to big box store developers.
- It would make an excellent Active Transportation and Transit corridor to connect River Heights with Polo Park, but a developer will be appearing at a City meeting in January to argue for purchasing parts of it.
- The City has plans to spend millions of dollars to widen Kenaston Blvd by expropriating houses, even though that contravenes Plan Winnipeg and local residents are fiercely opposed to it. The City hasn't been receptive to developing an Oak Park AT / Transit corridor instead. They've avoided community consultations and environmental assessment. They give crumbs to AT and Transit while spending millions on roads.
- Ken would like Bike to the Future to get involved with this issue. Jackie mentioned that we have previously stated that "new initiatives require new energy (new people to get involved). There's potential for a BttF-endorsed River Heights Oak Point Committee to emerge:
 - Ken is a BttF member.
 - A year ago, Daniel Gravenor had started a River Heights group.
 - In the past few months, Anders has facilitated regional cycling groups via Google Groups communications.
 - Lindsay Gauld (Olympia / SPIN) lives in River Heights.
 - Many BttF members live in River Heights, including a few Directors.

Kevin will link all of these people together.

(Please see the 2nd paragraph in Rob Cosco's City Committee report – attached. The South West and River Heights cycling stewardship groups plan to meet together sometime in January at a location near Pembina-Jubilee in order to develop recommendations for the Active Transportation Advisory Committee.)

5. Active Transportation Network – Jackie Avent

- An *Active Transportation Network* was formed a few months ago by the Physical Activity Coalition of Manitoba's (PACM) AT Committee. BttF is part of it. A breakfast meeting was held last week, which many BttF members attended: Kevin Miller (for BttF), Jackie Avent (Resource Conservation Manitoba), Curt Hull (Climate Change Connection), Dave Elmore (Public Works and Government Services Canada), Anders Swanson (One Green City), Arne Elias & Terry Zdan (UofWinnipeg Centre for Sustainable Transportation), Richard Milgrom (Planners Network), Beth McKechnie (PACM), and possibly others.
- The AT Network is planning for a Bike Rally on Sunday June 1st, the first day of the Commuter Challenge. Scot Miller (Olympia Cycle / SPIN) and Paul Jordan (The Forks) will be contacted. **BttF will have to determine how we can contribute to it.** Guy Madill and Ben Goldstein offered ideas.
- The Planners Network's 2008 conference (*PN2008 Winnipeg*) will be held in Winnipeg on July 17th to 20th. Richard Milgrom (UofManitoba City Planning department) is leading the organization for it. Jackie Avent and Karin Kliewer are on his committee. **BttF will have to determine how we'd like to participate in PN2008 Winnipeg.** Anne Moudon, a renowned City Planner, will be the conference's guest speaker, and AT Network organizations have been asked to consider helping to pay her \$1000 speaker's fee. **Motion to contribute \$200: Ben Goldstein. Seconded: Rob Cosco. Passed unanimously.** Jackie will inform Richard.
- The brother of Enrique Peñalosa (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enrique_Pe%C3%B1alosa -- the Bogota Colombia mayor who created an extensive bicycle route network) will be in Winnipeg on February 27th. He's an excellent speaker. More details later.

6. Special Directors Meeting on Wednesday November 13th – Kevin Miller

- Kevin explained what was discussed. The meeting minutes are at http://biketothefuture.org/attachments/0000/0864/bttf_specialdirectorsmeeting_2007-11-21.pdf.

7. Budget presentations to the City of Winnipeg's Executive Policy Committee on Monday December 10th – Anders Swanson

- Three BttF members gave presentations: Janice Lukes (Winnipeg Trails Association), Mark Cohoe (for BttF's City Committee), and Anders Swanson (One Green City). These were very effective high-quality presentations that complemented each other well. Lots of work went into them. (Please see the three presentations at <http://www.winnipeg.ca/CLKDMIS/ViewDoc.asp?DocId=7837&SectionId=&InitUrl=> under *DELEGATIONS on the Preliminary 2008 Annual Capital Budget and 2009 to 2013 Five Year Capital Forecast* in the top half window. Please also see Rob Cosco's City Committee report – attached, and note that on Wednesday December 12th, City Council voted to increase the budget for cycling infrastructure by another \$500,000 for 2008 -- <http://biketothefuture.org/cycling-news/archives/2007/12/12/good-news-for-cyclists>. Also, CBC TV Local News on Thu Dec 13th had a three minute story featuring Anders, Janice, and info from Mark.)

8. Financial report – Kevin Miller for Curt Hull

- Curt's report is attached.

9. City Committee report – Rob Cosco

- Rob briefly summarized his report. The complete report is attached.

10. Education & Safety report – Dave Elmore

- Dave's report is attached.

11. Membership – Karin Kliewer

- We now have 290 members.

12. Other items

- Jeremy Hull asked Ben Goldstein about the status of the new website. Ben apologized that the new website had not been "soft launched" on November 13th as planned because his committee members needed some time off. He mentioned that the content plan, spearheaded by Curt Hull, was developed, and that he would be asking his committee members if they could complete the launch of the website over the holiday season break.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Note: We didn't review the November Monthly Meeting minutes at this meeting. We'll do that at the **January Monthly Meeting on Tuesday January 8th**. Those minutes are at http://biketothefuture.org/meetings/20071113_meeting.pdf.

Safety & Education Committee Report – December 2007

by Dave Elmore, Safety & Education Director

- Five Safety & Education Committee members are continuing their Can-Bike education in order to be certified as instructors.
- Work on a training course based on the Can-Bike program is continuing with the hopes that it will be ready by spring 2008. The course would
 - focus on road and riding skills,
 - provide a condensed version of Can-Bike,
 - offer levels to align with different cyclists skills/knowledge levels, and
 - may or may not be a certified Can-Bike course.
- The committee has met with MPI to discuss partnering, advertising, education in schools and changes to driver education as it relates to cyclists. MPI is reviewing, and we are waiting for a response.

City Committee Report -- November - December 2007

by Rob Cosco, City Director

It's been a relatively quiet month for us. I have spent time reviewing cycling policy and expenditures in Western cities. This has helped us put into perspective what the plans are for Winnipeg versus what is happening elsewhere.

Mark Cohoe and I met with Anders Swanson, and will meet on December 13th with Kevin Nixon (the City's Active Transportation Coordinator) and others to begin planning for the stakeholders group to plan the **cycling routes in and out of the downtown**. Kevin's Active Transportation Advisory Committee is mandated to create a city-wide AT "action plan" (cycling infrastructure, etc) by March. Any help from local cycling stewardship groups will be appreciated, and will contribute to the success of the overall plan. (Note: To learn about all **local cycling stewardship groups**, please see <http://www.onegreencity.com/WinnipegOverview.html>.)

We have had variety of discussion with regards to the **2008 city budget**, and although we are not happy with the minimal line item budgeted for cycling, we are led to believe that this will increase as a plan gets developed. Mark prepared a PowerPoint submission to the City's Executive Policy Committee on the budget with a focus on the positive developments in Winnipeg and what is needed to continue in a progressive manner. (Note: please also see item #7 in the Monthly Meeting minutes about the presentations to EPC.)

We also had a lunch hour meeting with the Safety & Education Committee to review and clarify concerns with regards to the City's plans for the layout and marketing of the upcoming **sharrows on bike routes**. We have come up with some basic guidelines, which we will discuss with the city when we meet with the City engineers sometime in mid-January. Our proposed guidelines:

- In lanes that allow parked cars, we would not support sharrows unless the lane is at least 4.2 m wide. The sharrow marking in those lanes must be near the left edge of the lane (i.e. to the left of the parked cars). The sharrow marking frequency must be every 100 to 150 metres and before all intersections. The paint used for sharrows must be non-slippery.
- Designated bike-only lanes must be at least 1.5m wide.
- The painted line to the left of either sharrows or bike lanes must be dashed (i.e. not solid). The dashes would be about half the length of "normal" dashes, and about twice as frequent.
- These markings need to be accompanied by education and enforcement campaigns:
 - Education
The message needs to stress that passing on the right is illegal (this avoids cars passing to the right of cyclists on sharrows). To avoid being passed on the right, cyclists should ride further to the right in the sharrow lane when no cars are parked for a long distance ahead (e.g. when parking is restricted at rush hour)
 - Enforcement
It might also be appropriate to decide whether or not you want to pursue something to authorize bicycles to pass on the right where an oversized (4.2+m wide) lane is being used, especially if sharrows are in place.
- Note that cars parked parallel to the curb are required by law to be within 450mm of the curb (HTA 123(1)).