

BPAC Meeting Minutes – August 17, 2016

Called to order at 5:38p

Present: Annie Honrath (Chair), Daniel Tepper, Gary Davis (Whatcom County Planning), Amber Pouley, Joseph Garcia, Rodney van Der Syden (WC Public Works), Sue, Ian, Bob Hendricks, Amy Ellsworth

Joseph moved to approve previous meeting minutes. Resolution: Approved

Agenda items

- **Jon Hutchings, Whatcom County Public Works Director white paper project**
 - should the Comprehensive Plan take on a new form?
 - City has separate bike plan and pedestrian plan
 - ideas: content, scope, size
 - what should it look like? project list? map?
 - Jon has draft document together: work plan for us
 - treat us as a subdepartment of County
 - outline goals of committee, etc
 - transportation v. recreation, etc
- **Gary: discussion on definitions for "transportation," "recreation," "trail"**
 - nearly all projects have pedestrian or bike element
 - next TIP could have bike-ped specific box (per Joe Rutan)
 - Comp Plan says new six-year TIP for bike-ped plans with project list
 - Councilmember Rud Browne is very interested in bicycle tourism in Whatcom County
- **Gary: BPAC purpose statement and work plan**
 - how to implement it in his department
- **Daniel: Trails and Paths Fund (47.30 RCW)**
 - on gas tax
 - stable funding source for trails maintenance and implementation in County
 - County Treasury site no longer showing this as a line-item
 - State organization of road engineers says it must be spent on road-specific projects
 - "expenditure of ...related funds shall be deemed to be for highway, road, and street purposes" (47.30.060 RCW), but the next section says that railroad trails that are granted for "bicycle, equestrian, or pedestrian, path shall be deemed a public highway in the state of Washington" (47.30.070 RCW)
 - not much implemented so far, but no longer transparent
- **Additional discussion of white paper**
 - should it be what we tell Jon to tell Mr. Louws?
 - we should see what Jon wants it to look like
 - what can we do that will have the most impact and help the most?
 - simplify the TIP, focus on the maps, remove some of the verbiage
 - prioritize the project list...a lot of information weeded out last time
 - has the criteria changed for setting priority on project list?
 - new items? new list?
- **Rodney would like a letter of support for "substandard" rumble strip installation at Smith Road, east of Sand Road to Hwy 542. "Substandard" because they are for a 5-6 ft. wide shoulder**

Adjourned at 7:00p