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# Meeting Minutes Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee December 13, 2022

## **Members Present:**

Karin Mills, City of Wilmington
Carol Stein, Pender County
Rodney Kidd, Town of Carolina Beach
Katie Ryan, Town of Wrightsville Beach
Brianna D'Itri, Wave Transit
Joe Boyd, Town of Belville
Mo Linquist, Town of Kure Beach
Vanessa Lacer, Town of Leland
Al Schroetel, Cape Fear Cyclists
Steve Zinder, UNCW
Adrienne Cox, NCDOT Division 3
Emma Stogner, WMPO
Abby Lorenzo, WMPO

# **Staff and Guests Present**

Carolyn Caggia, WMPO Sally Thigpen Terry Smith Tara Duckworth Abie Bonevac

#### 1. Call to Order

- C. Stein called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm and roll was called.
- Terry Smith introduced himself on behalf of the Wilmington Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, expressing hopes of collaboration in the future.
- Carolyn Caggia was introduced as the WMPO's newest planner, focusing on the transportation demand management program.

# 2. Approval of the Agenda

- Motion to approve was made by Steve Zinder.
- Motion was seconded by Adrienne Cox.
- Motion passed unanimously.

#### 3. Public Comment Period

• There were no public comments.

# 4. Approval of minutes from August 2022

- Motion made to approve by Steve Zinder, seconded by Nick Cannon.
- Motion passed unanimously.

#### 5. Presentations

• Emma Stogner gave a presentation about NCDOT's recently announced Feasibility Studies Grant Program. She shared why feasibility studies are important to moving projects to implementation and shared that the WMPO will be applying for two projects in the region.

#### 6. Old Business

- Emma Stogner shared the results of the 2022 Commuter Challenge, stating that while the challenge went well, staff are always looking into ways to improve the event.
- Emma Stogner and Greer Shivers shared the East Coast Greenway Signage project is at a
  good place and that staff has a good number of recommendations to pursue. The next
  step will be to coordinate with East Coast Greenway staff to determine an
  implementation strategy. Staff stated that further direction will be shared at the next
  meeting.
- Staff opened time for members to discuss the quarter cent sales tax referendum and how other local partners could engage in the process.

### 7. New Business

- Carolyn Caggia shared news about the state's new Year of the Trail campaign. 2023 will
  be the Year of the Trail and the Great Trails State Coalition has an abundance of
  resources on how to get involved on their website. Carolyn shared that the WMPO is
  working with local partners to schedule events in the upcoming year.
- WMPO staff asked BPAC members to consider supporting the organization's two
  applications for the Feasibility Studies Grant Program. For the Gullah Geechee Heritage
  Corridor application, Steve Zinder motioned that the committee support the application
  and Al Schroetel seconded. The vote passed unanimously. For the Wilmington
  Downtown Trail application, Steve Zinder motioned that the committee support the
  application and Karin Mills seconded. The vote passed unanimously.
- The Bicycle and Pedestrian Board re-elected Carol Stein as the chair and Steve Zinder as
  the vice chair. Mo Linquist motioned to re-elect Carol Stein as the chair, the motion was
  seconded by Al Schroetel. The motion passed unanimously. Carol Stein motioned to reelect Steve Zinder as the vice chair, the motion was seconded by Mo Linquist. The
  motion passed unanimously.
- WMPO staff presented a work plan for the upcoming year and asked members to share any items they would like to add. Carol Stein inquired whether the committee would need to meet more often in the new year with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan's efforts beginning soon. Abby Lorenzo shared that staff will involve the committee likely in late summer to fall of 2023. Karin Mills motioned to approve the work plan as is, Brianna D'Itri seconded. The motion carried.
- Carol and Al spoke about ways in which the committee could reach out to the
  community to promote bicycle and pedestrian safety. The committee supported the
  WMPO planning events and reaching out to local media about the initiative. Al also
  spoke about how electric bikes sales are taking off and that the committee needs to
  address this. Committee members also recommended staff speak with the new electric
  bike rental company in downtown to assess their stance on the matter.

# 8. Updates and Announcements

 Abby Lorenzo shared information about project swaps in the State Transportation Improvement Program and shared that staff could do a deep dive with the committee next year to learn about the process.

- WMPO Technical Coordinating Committee, Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 10am
- WMPO Board Meeting, Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at 3pm
- Go Coast Committee, Thursday, February 16, at 3pm

# 9. Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 2PM

# 10. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made by Steve Zinder.
- Motion was seconded by Abby Lorenzo.
- Motion passed unanimously.