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Meeting Minutes Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee August 8, 2023

Members Present:

Karin Mills, City of Wilmington Carol Stein, Pender County Nick Cannon, NCBOT Rodney Kidd, Town of Carolina Beach Katie Ryan, Town of Wrightsville Beach Brianna D'Itri, Wave Transit Mo Linquist, Town of Kure Beach Al Schroetel, Cape Fear Cyclists Adrienne Harrington, Town of Belville Steve Zinder, UNCW Emma Stogner, WMPO Duncan McCabe, City of Wilmington Adrienne Cox, NCDOT

Staff and Guests Present

Carolyn Caggia, WMPO Greer Shivers, WMPO Vanessa Lacer, WMPO Abie Bonevac, City of Wilmington Michelle Howes, NCDOT Karlene Ellis-Valis, New Hanover County Nicole Kohler Andrew Ooms

1. Call to Order

• C. Stein called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm and roll was called.

2. Approval of the Agenda

- Motion to approve was made by Duncan McCabe.
- Motion was seconded by Al Schroetel.
- Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment Period

• There were no public comments.

4. Approval of minutes from February and April 2023 Meetings

- Motion made to approve by Duncan McCabe, seconded by Katie Ryan.
- Motion passed unanimously.

5. Presentations

• Nicole Kohler from 3Wheel Therapy presented. The nonprofit's started first rides in June of this summer. The nonprofit offers adaptive rides for anyone who can't ride a traditional bicycle and consists of a seven member board. 3Wheel Therapy is funded through grants, donations, and sponsorships. They primarily serve Wilmington and Carolina Beach, but they can also serve Pender and Brunswick. The Trike is a Van Raam Opair model - electric pedal assist for children and adults. The front seat operates independently as a wheelchair. To ride, individuals must be transferred into/out of trike by caregiver. People interested can secure a ride time by signing up on website or email. Rides are offered 2-3 days/week in june 10- nov 4. Rides generally start and end at Chappel Park in Carolina Beach, utilizing the Island Greenway.

6. Old Business

- Emma made a call for volunteers and described the Brunswick Heritage Riverside Ride. The time commitment for volunteers will be around 2 hours. Registration for the event will be capped at 200 cyclists. Al will put it on the CFC ride calendar and the WMPO can make a Facebook event. Police support from Belville to do announcements at the park. Emma said the WMPO talk to Athina about what to do at the midpoint of the ride in Belville. Adrienne Cox suggested sponsoring a ride for 3Wheel therapy to join with a veteran or something. Steve Zinder agreed.
- Carolyn updated the committee on the Commuter Challenge, sharing that the event will span the entire month of October this year. Emma said she would update the committee as changes become finalized.

7. New Business

- Vanessa gave a presentation about the upcoming MTP cycle and the BPACs role as a stakeholder group. Emma gave the committee three options to schedule a stakeholder session. The committee reached a consensus that the October meeting should be use for this session, be in-person only, and go from 2 to 5 pm. Emma will send a calendar invite for people to answer yes/no to the full duration of the meeting. If people can't make it, Emma will send out a doodle for a subcommittee.
- Al shared information about city ratings on cityratings.peopleforbikes.org/cities/wilmington-nc. Wilmington is the only in the WMPO area that has been rated. Focus on hospital employees too and core services such as health and grocery stores. Municipalities can use this as rationale for funding/grants.

8. Updates and Announcements

- Emma shared that the Paved Trails Feasibility Studies Downtown Trail 2/3 phases, and Gullah Geechee Heritage Corridor have kicked off. The steering committee for GGHT will meet in mid-September. Public outreach will begin very soon for these. There will be at least one open house for the Downtown Trail and several for the GGHT.
- Al share that TBBF's president Eileen McConville presented to WMPO Board. TBBF and CFC have the ability to help the WMPO jurisdictions. They just donated a bike rack to NCDOT for Fort Fisher terminal to replace a 10 year old one. Small grants available. \$7k infusion from proceeds from tour de blueberry are incoming. Small grants like 3Wheel Therapy, etc. \$1k-2.5k grants.
- Mo mentioned Bike Walk NC summit is Sept 14-16. There will be a pre-summit webinar and bicycle friendly driver class. The class is virtual Tues Sept 12 1:30-3p. Anyone who signs up for the summit can get the class virtually. Emma will include the link for Bike Walk NC to the committee.

• Katie shared that the Town of Wrightsville Beach is doing a bike ped plan, there's a link to the survey through August 31. She encouraged members to take and share the survey as well as attend the open house.

9. Next Meeting

• Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 2PM

10. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made by Duncan McCabe.
- Motion was seconded by Katie Ryan.
- Motion passed unanimously.

Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization

City of Wilmington • Town of Carolina Beach • Town of Kure Beach • Town of Wrightsville Beach County of New Hanover • Town of Belville • Town of Leland • Town of Navassa • County of Brunswick County of Pender • Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority • North Carolina Department of Transportation