

BTF Meeting Minutes, September 8, 2005

Attendance

Melissa Taylor, Marty Brown, David Rathbone, Jean Smith, Daisy Blanton, Cheryl Shouse, Ben Taylor, Greg Laudeman, RC Hoff, Del Sudkamp, Philip Pugliese, Colleen Carboni.

Bicycle Coordinator Position

Outdoor Chattanooga has secured funding through the Lyndhurst Foundation to provide for a bicycle coordinator for the City of Chattanooga and the surrounding region. Our Bicycle Plan covers the Transportation Planning Organization's urban area which includes Hamilton County, and most of Walker, Catoosa and Dade counties. Outdoor Chattanooga is tasked with promoting activities within our entire region, so this position will be working to implement and promote the Master Plan as well as all types of bicycling activities in our area.

One of my primary functions will be to identify further funding opportunities and projects. As we enter the next phase of the Master Plan, input from BTF will be very important in prioritizing these projects and your continued support will be needed. Thanks to the many BTF members who campaigned for this position and in supporting me to be selected for the job.

Education programs

Chattanooga LCI's have been asked to host a Road I course in Knoxville in the next month. More information will be sent as dates are finalized. Our next Road I course here will be held October 22-23 at Chattanooga State. Jenny Berni and Del Sudkamp will be leading this course. Registration information is available on our website.

Colleen and Jean Smith have been working to offer a basic cycling course (shortened version of Road I) to children and adults in the MLK community. Unfortunately our first efforts to schedule a class were not successful but we will try again soon.

Through Outdoor Chattanooga and Parks & Recreation, we hope to soon have a standing schedule of educational programs.

David Rathbone has identified a potential classroom site for our BikeEd Enterprise South.

Bicycle Counts

Alta Planning (www.altaplanning.com) is conducting a national bicycle count program this week. We would like to try and participate by conducting bicycle counts as we have done in prior years. Our proposed schedule is from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM and from either 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM or 4:00 to 6:00 PM on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday of this week and then on Saturday from 12:00 to 2:00 PM.

Melissa and I are working on reviewing our past data to confirm locations for this year, but we would definitely want to gather data from Walnut Ave at Frazier and the Tennessee Riverwalk, perhaps at the Boathouse. Past locations also included the North Chattanooga loop and the East/West corridor.

If you might be available and willing to conduct counts for any one of these periods and/or have a suggestion for a good location, please let me know. I'll try to post or send out a summary of assignments later today.

Other Items

Greg Laudeman asked about any road widening projects in the Pitts Road/Levi Road area, along the Red Bank Ride route as there is a large new residential development under construction. Per Melissa, there are no current plans to include road widening at this time. Any questions regarding this project may be directed to the developer, George Luttrell, at 332-0058.

Safewalk Lighting - There was a question regarding ongoing maintenance of the Alton Park Safewalk lighting. I will identify who is responsible and see about getting any repairs completed.

Chestnut Street bike lane update - Per Ben Taylor, work should be progressing soon to complete markings on Chestnut between MLK and Riverfront Parkway. Suggestion was made to install bicycle racks at the restroom locations along the Riverwalk.

Request was made for a bicycle ramp to be added to the Brainerd Levy/Brainerd Road underpass (currently there are steps).

Question was raised concerning the status of the BMX park project for Camp Jordan. Any news on this?

Thanks to Colleen for her continued efforts in bringing us our monthly Bike2Work!

Our Bicycle Friendly Community renewal application is currently under review by the League of American Bicyclists. If you receive a request for information, please complete and submit as soon as possible. Let me know if you have any questions. We hope to hear from LAB on this by next month.

Upcoming Events

BRAT - September 17-24. **The Bicycle Ride Across Tennessee** begins this weekend in Chattanooga. Sign-up for the whole week or individual days at www.state.tn.us/environment/parks/BRAT/

The ride will begin at Harrison Bay State Park on Saturday. Riders will board the Southern Belle Riverboat and be transported to the Chattanooga riverfront from where they will depart for Dunlap. If you are not riding, please join us as we welcome the riders to Chattanooga at the Southern Belle dock at about 11:00 am on Sunday.

SORBA presents the **Chilhowee Challenge and Fat Tire Festival** September 23-25. <http://www.sorbachattanooga.com>

Chattanooga Bicycle Club presents the **Sequatchie Valley Century**, October 1. www.chattbike.com

Bike2Work is Friday, October 7.

www.bikechattanooga.org

For a complete list of outdoor activities, visit Outdoor Chattanooga

www.outdoorchattanooga.com.

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If you do not wish to receive this information, please reply to the address above

www.bikechattanooga.org