

Minutes for RBAC Meeting: February 1, 2023

7:00 – 9:00 pm, virtual Webex meeting

In attendance online: Bryan Barnett-Woods, Olivia Bobrowsky, Nancy Breen, Mike B., Sophie Chan-Wood, Robert Dalgarno, Tyree Davis IV, Joe Gillespie, Jake Jubiek, Bill Michie, David Myles, Carl Peterson, Mark Pierzchala, Shannon Brescher Shea, Jonathan Solomon, Dave Stinchcomb, Tracy Threefoot and Jim Wasilak

Nancy started the meeting at 7:02 pm with a request to approve the January meeting minutes. Robert motioned to approve; Jake seconded.

(1) Everyone introduced themselves to Tyree Davis, who is advisor to the Rockville City Manager for **Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**. He works with Harman Cordero in community engagement and will be hiring a part-time ADA Coordinator. His team is working on data collection and identifying goals for next steps. An idea was to provide bike helmets and lights to diverse populations. He welcomes any ideas and provided his contact information: tdavis4@rockvillemd.gov, 240-314-8112

(2) Jim Wasilak, **zoning administrator** in the City's planning department, discussed rewriting the zoning ordinance. There will be public input as well as ensuring policy recommendations are taken into account. How to regulate land use in each zone will be provided to property owners. Zoning policies need to match with the comprehensive master plan. There is a budget to rewrite the zoning ordinance with a consultant looking at code implementation.

This process will take 18 to 24 months with at least 3 public hearing to be announced once the draft has been issued. Jim will ensure all boards and commissions have input opportunities. Bike parking is in the zoning code but may need improvements for circulating networks for walking and biking. Bicycle and pedestrian circulation needs be considered with greater efforts as developments are growing so there is support for the density as new standards to avoid retro-fitting.

(3) Mark provided the Council Update and said they are in the **FY24 budget process**. The City Manager's budget will be posted on the City's website on 2/17 and presented to the Mayor & City Council on 2/27. There will be a budget work session and public hearing on 3/6. [<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/951/Budget-Financials>]

A specific plan for extension the Capital Bikeshare stations should be proposed. Guided by WABA (Washington Area Bicyclists Association) Shannon proposed about \$1,000 for a Youth Learn to Bike program and \$3,000 for biking clinics for 25 adults. These specific budget items should be presented at the 3/6 public hearing. Bryan will send out a reminder email. Jake volunteered to speak at that Mayor & City Council meeting. Shannon will bring budget proposal to hearing.

Mark followed up on the **contributory negligence bill** but the request period may have passed already. He will be attending meetings in April and May to learn the process of getting a bill passed. Lobbyists may already have set the stage for legislators to sponsor such a bill. Joe is researching Maryland model legislation and may be able to attend these meetings too.

(4) Bryan announced with **Maryland Bikeways Grant** the bike lane and counting projects will start soon. Construction has started on the Town Center road diet project. He will be attending the Maryland Bike Symposium on February 8.

The **bike parking at bus stops** will be narrowed down to ten locations which he will share shortly. The bike lanes on **Old Georgetown Road** will have flexi-posts installed by SHA (State Highway Administration). They will be reviewing the traffic congestion in August. Emergency vehicles are allowed in bike lanes but not cars.

The County is working on a **breezeways signage plan** with destinations and wayfinding. For **Bike to Work Day** on May 19, the County will be sponsoring the pit-stops at Falls Grove and Town Center again.

(5) Dave finalized the letter about **Pasture Brook Way at the Carl Henn Millennium Trail** (see attached). Jake motioned to approve the letter and Sophie seconded after clarifying edits. Nancy will send to Mayor and City Council with Bryan's help.

(6) Nancy will send the **WMATA letter** to Peter at WABA (see attached). Shannon motioned for approval and Joe and Sophie seconded.

(7) David reported that RPAC (**Rockville Pedestrian Advisory Committee**) wants to push more pedestrian/bike modifications for the Rockville Metro station redesign. They feel these concerns have not been addressed so far and asked RBAC to join forces on this.

(8) Since Sophie had problems sharing her screen, she will send the **Spring Recreation Guide ad** to the listserve for approval with a deadline of tomorrow at 5pm. (see attached)

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophie Chan-Wood