

Keizer Bikeways Advisory Committee
Wednesday, June 15, 2005

MINUTES

Members present: Hersch Sangster, Red Vanis, Chris Thomas, Jerry Lelack, Ron Anderson. Public Works represented by Pat Taylor in absence of Bill Lawyer. Councilor Jim Taylor attending due to absence of Richard Walsh.

Guests present: Steve Prothero, Chair of Traffic Safety Commission. Carl Anderson, OSU student working for the Traffic Safety Commission. Robert Fox, BTA Bicycle Safety Instructor. Keizer resident Bob Luoma.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Hersch in the City Council Chambers.

Minutes of the May 18, 2005 meeting were discussed and approved after changes were made.

Public Comments:

Robert Fox raised concerns regarding the sidewalk in front of AutoZone on River Road near Sunset. The sidewalk ends into a planting area, with users having to cross the planted area to continue on the sidewalk. Mr. Fox is in the opinion that the area is unsafe. Hersch will contact Bill Lawyer to discuss the problem and contact Mr. Fox for an update on the area.

Mr. Fox also advised that the BTA could possibly work with this committee on bicycle safety education. Mr. Fox worked within the Salem-Keizer School District this past school year and would like to coordinate future education programs with this committee. BTA has a helmet program that supplies helmets to those in need and inquired into the Bikeways Committee helmet program.

Hersch noted that all helmets purchased by this committee have been given away. He will check with Bill for an update on available funds to purchase additional helmets. We may have to contact Rotary or others asking for donations.

Hersch and Councilor Taylor will contact Salem-Keizer School District via Dave Cook to discuss future possible education programs in the schools. Mr. Taylor would also like to discuss the possibility of the school district requiring students who ride bicycles to school to wear helmets. He raised concerns regarding school district liability in the event of an accident on school grounds if the district allows students to operate the bicycle in violation of law.

Update on Education Projects-Cautious Kids: Hersch will attend the event, to be held July 11, 18 and 25 at Miller Elementary School.

Red provided update on the Bike Walk. The schools could not participate in the event this year, but possibly could next year. Contact person at Claggett Elementary School is Steve Sanchez.

Park Events in August - Confirm date and time: The event will be held August 6, 2005 (Saturday). We may provide people at the event to fit and provide helmets to those in need, similar to our participation at the Fire Department/Public Works open house.

Update Projects and Bike Signage in Keizer: Chemawa Road NE area currently under full construction, roadway will have bike lanes. Planning of future construction and improvements of Dearborn under consideration.

Chris raised concerns of signing of the bike route from Salem north into Keizer, in the area of River Road to Delmar Street. There are currently no signs indicating the route, which would cause riders unfamiliar to the area to use River Road rather than use the bike route. Hersch advised that ODOT has relaxed their requirements for signing the routes and lanes, with pavement markings being the standard. This issue will be presented via these minutes to the Traffic Safety Commission.

New Officer Selection: Ron Anderson selected as the new chair to replace Hersch; Darlene Taylor selected and will serve as co-chair. Their positions will be effective at the July 20, 2005 meeting.

Attendance at the RIVERR and Traffic Safety Commission Meetings: Red will attend the June 29, 2005 meeting of the RIVERR to represent this committee. No member will be available to attend the next Traffic Safety Commission meeting.

Other Business: Steve Prothero introduced Carl Anderson, a student from Oregon State University hired under grant to gather current information on the conditions of pedestrian and bicycle lanes/routes in the Keizer area. He has divided Keizer into several areas, and developed work sheets to evaluate the areas. This committee agreed to complete the assessment of the areas, attempting to gather the information by the next Bikeways Committee meeting. Steve will forward the information to committee members. Hersch and Ron will meet and distribute the sheets among committee members.

Councilor Taylor advised the railroad underpass at Keizer Station will be contracted by the railroad, adding it should be completed by September 2005.

Jerry Lelack raised the possibility of utilizing Keizer Times as an educational source. Hersch advised that Keizer Police Department currently uses that format, stating that we could possibly use the Keizer Times; however, suggested we should discuss this issue with KPD first.

Keizer resident Bob Luoma asked the procedure to report road hazards to bicycles and have them corrected. Pat Taylor advised that Public Works could be contacted through City Hall. This would include the removal of debris resulting from traffic crashes.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Next meeting: July 20, 2005