

WEST DES MOINES BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 5, 2019

The regular meeting of the West Des Moines Bicycle Advisory Commission was called to order on Thursday, September 5, 2019, at 5:31 p.m. by Vice Chair France.

Commission	Tom Suckow <i>Secretary</i>	Nick Welter	Brittany Freund	Helen Eddy <i>Chair</i>
Present		X	X	
Commission	Greg France <i>Vice Chair</i>	Cole Prevost	Mindy Moore	
Present	X		X	

Staff	Sally Ortgies <i>Director of Parks & Recreation</i>	David Sadler <i>Superintendent of Parks</i>	Ryan Penning <i>Superintendent of Recreation</i>	Miranda Kurtt <i>Parks & Recreation Secretary</i>
Present	X	X		X
Staff	Joe Cory <i>Deputy Director of Public Services</i>	Marco Alvarez <i>Park Planner</i>	Eric Petersen <i>Traffic Engineer</i>	Jason Bryan <i>Police Sergeant</i>
Present		X		X

Council	John Mickelson <i>City Council Liaison</i>
Present	

On Item 1. Approval of Agenda

Freund moved to approve the agenda as presented. Welter seconded. Motion carried, 4 yes.

On Item 2. Citizen Forum

No report.

On Item 3. Approval of Minutes from August 1, 2019 Meeting

Freund moved to approve the minutes as presented. Welter seconded. Motion carried, 4 yes.

Old Business

No report.

New Business

On Item 5A. Discussion – Model Bicycle Ordinance

Ortgies stated a draft Model Bicycle Ordinance is working through the Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The ordinance is now going to MPO committees including the Executive Committee that Mayor Gaer sits on. He has requested feedback on the Model Bicycle Ordinance. The Parks and Recreation staff has provided feedback along with France and Eddy. Staff wants to include any additional comments from the full Commission. Bryan stated that it would be difficult to enforce if the ordinance is passed city by city rather than being a statewide or metro area ordinance. Alvarez summarized the Overview of Changes in the Executive Summary provided by the MPO. Moore suggested that “highway” be changed to “roadway” and adding “and cargo” in Section 114-355. Welter questioned if the road doesn’t have a bike lane and someone opens their door causing an accident, who is to blame? Bryan stated that person opening the door is the one causing the accident therefore, they are the responsible party. Regarding Sec. 114-693, far to the right exemption, Moore suggest rewording the

entire section to reduce confusion. Ortgies asked if there were any comments on the Idaho Stop (stop sign as yield, and red light as stop rule, Sec. 114-683) section. Welter questioned who would have the right-of-way at a four-way stop sign where there is a vehicle and a bicyclist. Sadler stated that the wording in Sec. 114-683 does state that the cyclist does need to yield and follow traffic laws. Freud stated that it should be a metro-wide ordinance. Ortgies stated that the MPO needs to decide what will be in the ordinance based upon the feedback they receive and then each city will need to go through the process to determine what will be in each city's ordinance. Each city would need to go through its own approval process. Ortgies stated this would come to the Commission once an ordinance comes back to the City in a final form that has been approved by the MPO. The Commission would make a recommendation to the City Council for final approval. Moore added additional comments on "Stop sign as yield, and red light as stop rule" (Sec. 114-683) regarding the bikes approaching stop signs. Ortgies stated she would compile the comments to send to Mayor Gaer and would include the Commission on what was communicated. She noted that staff comments may be different than the Commission's comments. Welter questioned if the difference is an indication of what staff sees as an enforcement issue. Bryan commented it has more to do with the safety of the cyclists.

On Item 6A. Report – Education and Encouragement Committee

No report.

On Item 6B. Report – Enforcement and Evaluation Committee

No report.

On Item 6C. Report – Engineering Committee

No report.

Staff Reports:

On Item 7A. Engineering

No report.

On Item 7B. Public Services

No report.

On Item 7C. Police

No report

On Item 7D. Parks and Recreation

Alvarez stated the Levee Trail Renovation project is out for bid and should be completed in spring 2020. Asphalt patches were done along school routes. Sadler stated that the Corps of Engineers has given approval to remove the bollards from the Levee Trail. At the east entrance of Raccoon River Park, the trail will be moved further from the gravel road. A design contract was awarded for the Sugar Creek Greenway Trail that is part of the Marathon Loop Trail. A REAP Grant application was submitted for Raccoon River Pedestrian Bridge that will connect Raccoon River Park and Walnut Woods State Park.

On Item 8. Other Matters

Ortgies stated everyone should have received an invitation to the Five Waters Project Launch.

On Item 9A. Receive, File and/or Refer:

- A. Des Moines Area MPO, Central Iowa Bicycle – Pedestrian Roundtable Packet – July
- Des Moines Area MPO, Central Iowa Bicycle – Pedestrian Roundtable Packet – August

On Item 9B. City Council Communications

August 19, 2019: Resolution – Order Construction and Notice of Public Hearing on Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract, Estimate of Cost, and Direct Advertisement of the Bids – Levee Trail Improvements

Freund moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 p.m. Welter seconded. Motion carried, 4 yes.

Respectfully submitted,

 2-5-20
Miranda Kurtt
Secretary

ATTEST:  2/6/2020
Greg France
Vice-Chair