

MINUTES  
July 17, 2012 Meeting

---

**Members Present:** Toby Berla, Randy Best, Scott Carter, Dan Clever, Jim Dunlop, Ninna Gagnon, Lou Goetz, Erik Landfried, Jonathon Leach, Jennifer McDuffie, Dwayne Taylor,

**Members Absent:** Greg Garneau, Mathew Palmer, Merry Rabb, Cynthia Van Der Wiele

**Staff Present:** Dale McKeel

**Guests Present:** Helen Chaney, Linda Huff

**A. Introductions**

**B. Approval of Minutes**

- ◆ *Randy moved and Jennifer seconded to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2012 regular meeting. Motion passed unanimously.*

**C. Adjustments to the Agenda**

- ◆ Agenda items involving guests were moved up in the agenda.

**D. Announcements**

- ◆ No announcements.

**E. Public Comment**

- ◆ No public comments.

**F. Committee Reports**

**1. Development Review Committee Report (Dan Clever)**

*First Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Sunset Grill*

- ◆ Meeting was held on Tuesday July 10th, to avoid the conflict with the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.
- ◆ Present: Dan Clever, Jim Dunlop, Dale McKeel, Scott Carter, Jack Warman, Linda Smith
- ◆ Most of the meeting was spent discussing new statutes that define a quasi-judicial land use decision as any site plan approval that involve discretionary standards, and the proposed UDO changes to try to conform to these new statutes. The Planning Department has offered a “redline” of the UDO where discretionary decisions are replaced with a set of options or removed altogether. What the Planning department has proposed falls into the following main categories:
  - a. Removal of the Development Review Board, and allow the Planning Director the final say on minor site plans
  - b. Establishment of Level 1-4 site plans- sidewalks not required for Level 1
  - c. Parking Reductions would be a set of options rather than a DRB decision

- d. Alternate sidewalks no longer to be considered. Applicants would have a few options, including payment in lieu (not sidewalk in lieu).
- e. Several other adjustments, removing discretionary decisions as much as possible (i.e. inclusion of grass strip by sidewalks, bike parking design)

The development review committee will ask BPAC to write a memo detailing our concerns about specific sections of this proposed redline UDO, and offering replacement text where necessary.

**The committee moved to receive permission to draft a letter to the Planning Director for the BPAC chair's signature including BPAC's comments and suggestions regarding the proposed UDO changes. *The motion passed unanimously.***

- ◆ Jim Dunlop will serve as chair of the committee, as Dan is cycling off the commission. Jim's term is up in August, so another chair will be needed starting in September.
- ◆ The committee also discussed two development plans:
  1. Montclair-applicant requesting zoning map change to planned density residential at corner of Farrington Mill Road and Barbee Chapel Road- we are requesting addition of bike lane width and location of a proposed entrance to the development.
  2. Meadows at Southpoint- applicant requesting zoning map change to commercial and office at NC54 and Barbee Road- we are following up with a request concerning bike lanes along NC54

## **2. Community Engagement Committee Report (Mathew Palmer; Eric Landfried reporting)**

*First Tuesday of month, 6:30 pm, Geer Street Garden*

- ◆ Committee met July 11, 2012 - Attendees: Mathew Palmer, Erik Landfried, Scott Carter, Dale McKeel, Jennifer McDuffie, Ninna Gagnon, Brent Bateman
- ◆ The main goal of the committee right now is to reach out to three initial groups to solicit input from and provide information on bike/ped issues in Durham: neighborhoods/individuals, businesses, and schools.
- ◆ The following action items were identified regarding each group:
  - Neighborhoods/individuals - Scott Carter will talk to John Martin, the current Inter-Neighborhood Council (INC) chair, to see if the CE committee could be put on the agenda for INC's meeting on August 28th. Jennifer wondered whether it would make sense to reach out to the Partners Against Crime (PACs) as well and may touch base with Harold Chestnut to see how this might be accomplished. She also said that some questions could be included in a Community Health Assessment survey that will occur next year.
  - Businesses - Erik will contact Melissa Norton at Downtown Durham Inc. to get her sense of how to engage the business community. Jennifer will contact John White of the Chamber of Commerce. Dale suggested including a question or two on the Durham County Commute Ordinance survey administered by Stephanie Loyka at Triangle Transit. Erik will contact Stephanie.
  - Schools - In discussions with his wife Heidi (who serves on the Board of Education), Scott mentioned that the Board would likely be more receptive to a set proposal for how to engage/survey parents, teachers, and students, but is less likely to want to have a more general discussion at a Board meeting. A discussion about how to approach the schools will likely take place at the August CE meeting.

- ◆ The rest of the meeting was spent discussing the materials/questions needed for the meetings with these larger stakeholders and the development of a survey that can be distributed to their constituents. Erik will work on editing the short PowerPoint presentation that could be used at the meetings. The following initial questions were identified to lead a discussion with the stakeholders (some wordsmithing may be necessary):
  1. How important is it for you to be able to safely walk and bike in/to your neighborhood/business/school?
  2. What are the biggest barriers you see in terms of walking and biking safely in/to your neighborhood/business/school?
  3. What is the incentive that would make it more attractive for people to walk or bike more in/to your neighborhood/business/school?
  4. How can BPAC help your neighborhood/business/school reach its walking and biking goals?
  5. What is the best way for BPAC to solicit this type of feedback from your constituents?
- ◆ The committee also began discussing the development of a survey. It was agreed that the survey needed to be designed so that the results could be easily compiled and utilized. Jason Reyes at Alta Greenways was suggested as a good contact for ped/bike survey design. Dale also pointed out that a survey was developed for the DurhamWalks! and Bike Plans in 2005/6. Scott felt it is important to include some information in addition to soliciting feedback. This could be accomplished by providing a few key bullets that could include BPAC's website, a link to the updated Bike & Hike map, etc. This highlights the need to maintain the BPAC website so that up-to-date information is contained in a single location.

**3. Bike and Pedestrian Plan Implementation and Evaluation Committee Report (Greg Garneau)**

*Second Thursday 6:30 pm, Nanataco*

- ◆ The committee did not meet in July.

**4. Education and Encouragement Committee Report (Merry Rabb)**

*Second Tuesday, 7 pm, Beyu Caffè*

- ◆ The committee did not meet in July.
- ◆ Scott mentioned that CenterFest has requested that BPAC help with a bike valet service, on September 15-16. Scott asked if there was enough volunteer staffing available. Scott will ask the Durham Bike Coalition if they are interested in working with BPAC on this. Erik mentioned that having a booth at CenterFest was very valuable.
- ◆ A short discussion about Tour de Fat followed.

**G. Updates from Liaisons**

**1. DOST – Toby Berla**

- ◆ No report for this month. DOST will not meet in July.
- ◆

**2. NCCU – Jonathan Leach**

- ◆ Jonathan has been working with the Watch For Me – NC project.

### **3. Duke University – Randy Best**

- ◆ Duke has added breaks in the wall around East Campus, at the corners of Main-Broad and Main-Buchanan. This provides access to the walking trail inside the wall.

## **H. Old Business**

### **1. NCDOT Access to Transit Project (Dale McKeel, Erik Landfried, Helen Chaney)**

- ◆ Dale introduced Helen, who is with the NCDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Division.
- ◆ Helen presented information on the “Watch For Me – NC”. (Information was emailed to the members by Dale earlier.)
- ◆ Goal is to improve pedestrian safety through educational safety messaging and enforcement targeting drivers.
- ◆ The focus is on the Triangle area.
- ◆ Participating organizations included municipalities, universities, police departments and others.
- ◆ Campaign Goals - To educate:
  - Drivers to follow relevant laws
  - Pedestrians to use facilities provided
  - Drivers and pedestrians on safe walking and driving tips.
- ◆ Campaign components include:
  - Detailed crash analysis, including identifying target locations and audiences through crash data analysis
  - Enforcement, including local law enforcement conducting enforcement activities at pedestrian crosswalk locations, and an educational training component for police.
- ◆ Media outreach includes radio spots, earned media on radio/TV/print news, transit advertising, and print materials.
- ◆ Program Evaluation – Study yielding behaviors before, during and after education and enforcement, as well as track program activities.
- ◆ Campaign will launch August 6<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ The emailed material includes examples of the transit advertising posters.

### **2. Triangle Pedestrian Education and Enforcement Campaign (Dale McKeel, Helen Chaney)**

- ◆ Helen also made a presentation on the Durham *Pedestrian and Bicycle Access to Transit Plan*.
- ◆ Includes NCDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian and Transit Divisions, steering committee, and TDG, the consultant for the project
- ◆ Goal is to improve access to transit
- ◆ Target corridors are Fayetteville, Holloway/Liberty and Roxboro.
- ◆ Includes improvements to bus stops, including shelters, benches, etc.
- ◆ Will work with other projects, such as Durham Walks, Watch For Me NC, Designing Better Bus Service and Durham County Bus and Rail Investment Plan
- ◆ From field work, they identified opportunities for improvements, including missing sidewalks, landing pads, and overgrown landscaping
- ◆ Study process will include best practices research, focus groups, steering committees and public input, field analysis and recommendations, and online input.

- ◆ The project will identify a prioritization process, based on identified deficiencies, assessing demand, the available funding, and rider input.
- ◆ Next steps include rider input at the transit center on July 23<sup>rd</sup> (3-7PM), refine and finalize plan, and then plan review, adoption and endorsement.

### **3. Bull City Bike Rack Proposal Status (Scott Carter)**

- ◆ Following the discussion from last month, Scott discussed some of the next steps for this proposal. Scott recommended that a sub-committee work with others in the City, including Lisa Miller, gather information from the Raleigh group that worked on their rack project, and develop the next steps. *Scott made a motion to create this sub-committee in order to develop this project and Randy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

## **I. New Business**

### **1. New Bike Rack Locations (Dale McKeel)**

- ◆ Dale provided an update on new bike racks. Sixty racks were installed, funded by Federal money, and Dale will provide a full list of locations. Dale showed some examples of the new racks. Some of the locations included recreation centers, parking decks in downtown, the Brightleaf area, eight racks on 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 25 on downtown streets,

### **2. Financial Update (Dale McKeel)**

- ◆ Dale showed the general fund account entries. The balance as of 7/5/21 is 974.28. There's also a balance of \$1085.15 in the bike map fund, from donations for copies of the map. Much of this money was used to print copies of the new maps.

## **J. Staff Report / Questions / Announcements**

- ◆ Scott announced that Toby has resigned from DOST, and as their liaison to BPAC, and this is his last meeting.
- ◆ Randy, Toby, Erik, Jennifer, and Dale attended the Downtown Pedestrian Environment Session, covering the Blackwell-Corcoran-Foster corridor.
- ◆ Bergen Watterson has accepted a full-time job at Triangle J COG.
- ◆ Bob Mosher from NCDOT Bike/Ped called Dale regarding three upcoming bridge projects, on Alston Ave. (near NC 55), Stallings Road, and on Bowen Road near Rougemont, asking about what is shown in the DurhamWalks! and Durham Bicycle plans for these locations.
- ◆ A update on the ATT. While active construction has started and the trail is officially closed, some citizens are still using the trail, coming close to the construction work. The consultant appear to be working to complete the trail section between Scott King and Chatham County line as quickly as possible.
- ◆ Regarding bicycle corridors on Morreene, Carpenter Fletcher, Cornwallis, and Hillandale. A consultant has been tentatively selected to work on the functional design for these projects.

## **K. Adjournment**

- ◆ *Randy moved and Toby seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously and meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:59 PM.*