

**CITY OF WARRENVILLE
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Access Information: 1(872)240-3412; Access Code: 976-727-925

Persons wishing to provide public comment were strongly encouraged to submit written comments via email at kyoungmeyer@warrenville.il.us

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sugrue called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and read a statement regarding the Open Meetings Act and the authority to hold public meetings with remote attendance.

B. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chair Jerry Sugrue (at City Hall); Commissioners Charles Sikaras, Kirk Tate, Kate Perkins (remotely)

Members Absent: Commissioner Harlan Davis

Also Present: Staff Liaison Kristin Youngmeyer (at City Hall); Alderman Bill Weidner (remotely)

Guests: Pam Spevak, 29W630 Mack Road, Warrenville; Mitch Adamus, 29W606 Mack Road, Warrenville; and Susan Perwezow, 29W606 Mack Road, Warrenville.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of the June 9, 2020, meeting by Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Sikaras.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Commissioners Perkins, Sugrue, Sikaras and Tate.

Nays: None.

MOTION ADOPTED.

D. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Pam Spevak, 29W630 Mack Road, Warrenville, spoke with regard to the proposed 10-foot wide multi use path along the north side of Mack Road. She cited the BPAC mission statement from the City website and urged BPAC and the City to reevaluate the safety of the Mack Road plan. She noted that at the last public meeting on the path, the City stated they had enough Right of Way to build the path on the north side of the road. However, it turns out that they need additional Right of Way and some easements. On the north side, this path would cross 5 driveways. Ms. Spevak suggested that instead of the path being built on the north side of Mack Road that it be built on the south side of Mack Road.

Mitch Adamus, 29W606 Mack Road, Warrenville, also spoke with regard to the Mack Road path. He noted that while his neighbors were unable to make the meeting, he felt he spoke for them, too. He had 3 concerns: preserving native species and other flora, the easements and safety. Mr. Adamus stated he has been doing restoration in the forest preserve for 40 years. Property owners have many plants on their property, valuable native species, some of which don't exist in forest preserve, which would be impacted by the path. He pointed out the same issues with easements and driveways as Ms Spevak. However, he stated that the real issue is safety. If the path is on the south side, path users will have to be able to safely cross Mack Road to get into the forest preserve on the north side. He suggested using the same kind of on demand crossing light as is used at Batavia & Williams. He also suggested replacing the crossing light that is furthest east with the same kind of on demand crossing light. He suggest that the BPAC members come to Mack Road and see the types of crossings that are used today.

Susan Perwezow, 29W606 Mack Road, Warrenville, also spoke with regard to the Mack Road path. Ms. Perwezow stated she has been a runner for many years and is on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Prairie Path. She stated that running on the south side of Mack Road will be much more pleasant than running in front of people's homes, that she feels it is invasive and intrusive to run in front of homes. She stated a south side path would be much more enjoyable for path users.

E. STAFF REPORT

Staff Liaison Youngmeyer presented the Staff Report and noted that the BPAC is now an affiliate member of Ride Illinois. This means BPAC will get information from Ride Illinois and be able to attend their events at a discounted price. Staff Liaison Youngmeyer asked BPAC members to let her know as soon as possible if they wish to attend the Ride Illinois Bike Summit on September 15th. The Bike Summit is being held virtually, and the presentations will be available online for 30 days after the summit.

F. BUSINESS OF MEETING

1. Bike Safety – Develop Educational Materials

- i. Website –Staff Liaison Youngmeyer reviewed past meeting notes on discussion to check and update BPAC related information on the website, where appropriate. The pages of interest noted were BPAC page and the local attractions page. Commissioner Perkins suggested that the local attractions page could provide a link to the DuPage County trail maps. Alderman Weidner suggested to carry this item over to the next meeting and he will comment then. Chairman Sugrue asked that Commissioners Sikaras and Tate review the pages, too, since they will bring a fresh perspective. Alderman Weidner asked Liaison Youngmeyer to resend the urls for BPAC to review, and make suggestions to Liaison Youngmeyer. Liaison Youngmeyer will evaluate them and make any changes.

- ii. Electronic Sign – Chairperson Sugrue explained some rules and history of project. Liaison Youngmeyer received several messages for the sign. The first one was displayed this week, and the others will be displayed at the rate of one per week. Liaison Youngmeyer asked Commissioners to send her new ideas. Commissioner Sikaras suggested there could be a message about being respectful to the trails and not littering. Alderman Weidner advised that messages should be positive and encouraging. He thanked the Commissioners for their work on the messages.

2. Bike Friendly Community Awareness

- i. Website: Liaison Youngmeyer added a picture of the Bike Friendly Sign to the BPAC webpage but would like to add some text explaining the award. The text should be succinct and not need frequent updating.

3. Safety Concerns

- i. Trail Sign at Jefferson Street and 2nd Street, near the Historical Society Museum. This item was originally brought up by Commissioner Davis. Concern expressed was trail users that travel south on 2nd Street can easily miss the bike trail as it turns west next to the museum because there is no sign at the intersection of 2nd and Jefferson. Further, trail users who are going north and exit the trail at the museum have no signs directing them to go north on 2nd to the next leg of the trail.

Liaison Youngmeyer went with Deputy Public Works Director Phil Kuchler to review the location. Upon review, the Deputy Director determined there was adequate information to guide persons to stay on the paved West Branch Trail, noting crosswalk striping directly connected the paved West Branch Trail across 2nd and Jefferson. In response, Commissioner Perkins and Alderman Weidner disagreed and stated that it is common for bicyclists to ride in the street on 2nd rather than the paved West Branch Trail that runs on the east side of 2nd between Main Street and Jefferson, and it is legal for bicyclists to ride in the street.

Liaison Youngmeyer stated that this concern was reviewed in the past, and it was also determined additional signs at this intersection were not needed.

Alderman Weidner asked whether the Deputy Director had a reason for not wanting to put up a sign, such as a liability issue. Liaison Youngmeyer communicated that this was not a liability issue, nor a matter of not wanting to put up a sign. Rather, a determination that the current wayfinding was sufficient to help path users navigate the trail. Since the pavement striping connected the West Branch Trail across the intersection, bicyclists following on the paved West Branch Trail would be led directly to the striped crossing, and be led to where the path continues. If bicyclists using the trail did not see the striping, it was thought they would also not see a sign.

Liaison Youngmeyer directed commissioners to speak directly to the Deputy Public Works Director, and there was discussion about whether commissioners should speak directly to City staff or go through Liaison Youngmeyer. Liaison Youngmeyer suggested that commissioners write up their concerns, give to her to send to Deputy Public Works Director, and she will report back to us with any additional comments. Commissioner Sikaras suggested that someone from Public Works come to the next BPAC meeting to talk about this.

Commissioner Tate said it seemed proper order to propose something as a group, not make individual proposals. Alderman Weidner suggested that the roadways could be marked to show that there is a trail crossing or put up a trail crossing sign right before the crosswalk. He stated that he was surprised that City would not offer the requested routing information at this intersection.

- ii. July 8, 2020 – Bike Accident: On July 8th, there was a bike accident on the Prairie Path in the vicinity of Butterfield Road and Highway 59. Commissioner Perkins had asked Liaison Youngmeyer to see if there was something that caused the crash that the City could address. Liaison Youngmeyer contacted the Warrenville police who told her that the crash occurred outside of the City limits and suggested she contact the DuPage County Sheriff for more information. Commissioner Perkins thanked Liaison Youngmeyer for looking into the matter. Alderman Weidner noted that part of BPAC’s mission is to make cycling safer. Chairperson Sugrue asked Liaison Youngmeyer to reach out to DuPage County for the accident report and bring it to the next meeting.
- iii. Walk to School Day - Commissioner Perkins gave a history of Bike/Walk to School Day and how BPAC has participated in this PTA led event. Commissioner Tate checked with his wife who is on the PTA Leadership Council at Johnson Elementary School. The PTA had not discussed the event yet. Staff Liaison Youngmeyer stated that the City would follow current Restore Illinois Phase 4 guidelines, and not have City Council commissions or boards participate in events with more than 50 people. She and others recommended that if the PTAs plan an event in October, that BPAC not participate this year. Commissioner Perkins made a motion that BPAC not participate in Bike/Walk to School Day in October. Commissioner Tate seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Aye: Perkins, Tate, Sugrue, Sikaras.

Nay: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

- iv. National Night Out – NNO was rescheduled to October 6. It also usually has more than 50 attendees. Liaison Youngmeyer will find out if the event is canceled and email the BPAC. However, the general sentiment was that the BPAC did not want to participate. Liaison Youngmeyer will let the Police Department know.

G. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

1. Review Action Items

	Item	Lead
1.	Find date for next Mack Road public meeting and share with BPAC	Liaison Youngmeyer

Item		Lead
2.	Tell City Liaison if interested in attending Ride Illinois Summit	BPAC members, Alderman Weidner
3.	Send BPAC members the URLs of website pages to review	Liaison Youngmeyer
4.	Review BPAC web page and Local Attractions web page and make suggestions for changes to Liaison Youngmeyer	BPAC members, Alderman Weidner
5.	Draft messages for City electronic sign and send to Liaison Youngmeyer	BPAC members, Alderman Weidner
6.	Write text for website explaining Bike Friendly Status and send to Liaison Youngmeyer.	Perkins
7.	Invite Deputy Public Works Director Philip Kuchler to next BPAC meeting to continue discussion of trail signs	Liaison Youngmeyer
8.	Develop a common view and a proposal for trail signage at 2 nd and Jefferson Streets.	BPAC members, Alderman Weidner
9.	Write specifics on problem, concerns and solutions regarding trail signs at 2 nd and Jefferson St. Send to Liaison Youngmeyer	BPAC members, Alderman Weidner
10.	July 8, 2020 – Bike Accident: obtain copy of accident report and bring to next BPAC meeting	Liaison Youngmeyer
11.	National Night Out -find out if event is canceled; notify BPAC. Notify Police Department that BPAC won't participate	Liaison Youngmeyer
12.	View signage at I-88 westbound exit ramps and identify improvements	Liaison Youngmeyer, Chairperson Sugrue, Commissioner Sikaras

2. Review of Past Action Items – This was accomplished during the meeting.

3. Miscellaneous

- i. Alderman Weidner welcomed Commissioners Tate and Sikaras and said he looks forward to working with them. He thanked Liaison Youngmeyer for all of the work she does for BPAC. Chairperson Sugrue agreed. Commissioner Perkins asked about status of Mack Road project and the ability to make changes at this point. Liaison Youngmeyer communicated there would be a public information meeting later in the fall to review the revised design plans currently being developed and would be an opportunity to ask staff questions about the project. She would notify BPAC of the date of the meeting and send it to BPAC members.

- ii. Commissioner Sikaras stated that he would like for Chairperson Sugrue and Liaison Youngmeyer to join him and view the signage at the I-88 west bound exit ramp to Winfield road. He has observed the problem that when motorists are turning right on a red light, their sight lines are all to the south. They do not look to the right for pedestrians and bicyclists that are moving north to south, and was concerned this could cause a crash. Chairperson Sugrue and Liaison Youngmeyer said both acknowledged being able to meet with Commissioner Sikaras.

4. ADJOURN

Commissioner Sikaras made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m., Commissioner Perkins seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Aye: Chairperson Sugrue, Commissioners Perkins, Tate and Sikaras.

Nay: None.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,
Commissioner Perkins