

**BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY HALL ROOM 302A
10 N. DIVISION STREET
BATTLE CREEK, MI 49014
THURSDAY, March 17, 2016
3:00 PM**

Members Present: Commissioners Dave Walters and Andy Humboldt, Kevin Smith, Blewit Smyth, Mike Wood, Bill Dugan, Mike Miller, and Sam Gray, Carl Fedders

Absent: Chris Depp, John Macfarlane, Stacey Schuler, Chuck Donnell, Lt. Steve Bush, and Chad Curtis

Staff: Victoria Houser, City Clerk

A. Call to Order/Recognition of Quorum

Mayor Walters called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm, noting a quorum was not present.

B. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

C. Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Mike Miller, supported by Sam Gray, to approve the February 18, 2016 meeting minutes. All yes, none opposed. Motion approved.

D. Bicycle Month Events

Mayor Walters discussed upcoming bicycle events for the month of May 2015.

- SWMMBA Fort Custer Stampede – May 1, 2016 – information at bikefortcuster.com
 - Race Categories include: Elite, Expert, Sport, Sport Single Speed, Fat Tire, Tandem, Beginner Single Speed and Kids
 - Race Times: Elite @ 10:00am, Expert @ 11:00am, Sport @ 12:30pm, Beginner @ 1:45pm and Kids @ 11:00am
- Slow Roll Monday, May 2, 2015 @ 5:00pm at The Kool Center – look at poster/registration - Jessica
- Bike to School Day Wednesday, May 4, 2016
- Women’s Personal Safety while Cycling Friday, May 6, 2016 @ 5:00pm at Team Active
- Slow Roll Monday, May 16, 2016 @ 5:00pm at The Kool Center
- Ride of Silence Wednesday, May 18, 2016 7:00 pm– Start at Willard Beach
- Bike to Work Day Friday, May 20, 2016 @ 7:30 am - Start at Culver’s Restaurant on Beckley Road, ending at Kellogg Headquarters
- Spring into the Arts – Friday, May 20, 2016 – Enjoy the an evening of Art downtown Battle Creek

E. Fat Fest Event

Keven Smith, Recreation Superintendent, talked about the Fat Fest event, part of the End of Winter Party, stating 400-500 people attended. Mr. Smith said there were events for every age, including a bonfire. Mr. Smith said the event was very successful, stating they were looking forward to next year’s event.

Mr. Wood agreed the attendance exceeded expectations, with 90 competitors, several from outside of Battle Creek. Mr. Wood stated this annual event will help to make everyone aware of all of the opportunities the Winter Park can offer, including sledding, biking, hiking, snowshoeing, and cross country skiing.

F. Connecting KRVF System to Battle Creek

Mayor Walters discussed the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail, noting there is a space of 8 miles, from Fort Custer to Galesburg that does not connect the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo trails. Mayor Walters discussed an event at Canal Street Restaurant to discuss the need for funding, stating the cost will be \$3 Million, stating \$2 Million has been raised, noting they are also raising funds for an endowment for future maintenance. Mayor Walters stated there were also discussions to create a trail around Gull Lake. Mayor Walters stated representatives would be attending the April meeting to make a presentation.

Mr. Smith informed the Committee there were discussions to continue the trail east toward Jackson.

Mr. Fedders discussed efforts to take the trail along the River Walk in Marshall, stating there were difficulties crossing I-69, stating there were also discussions of running the trail along the railroad as only one of the tracks is currently being used.

Mr. Smith stated he had a meeting the next week with the Calhoun Trail Alliance to discuss signage on both sides of the Emmett Street Bridge, part of the North County Trail,

Committee Discussion

Mr. Wood thanked everyone for their support of cycling events, stating the Fat Fest was a successful partnership between business and government.

Mayor Walters informed the committee that the American League of Cyclists recommended the City participate in an educational event with the Michigan League of Cyclists. Committee members suggested they conduct an educational lesson before the Ride of Silence.

Mr. Wood said he would be presenting a lunch-n-learn to the Federal Center and the Portage Police Department in May.

Mayor Walters said the KRTV representatives were impressed the Committee included members from all over the city. Mayor Walters updated the Committee on his recruitment efforts, asking for recommendations for Wards 1 and 3.

Next Meeting: April 21, 2016 at 3:00 Room 302A

Adjournment: Comm. Walters adjourned the meeting at 3:36 pm.