

Minutes for RBAC Meeting: January 5, 2022

7:00 – 9:00 pm, virtual Webex meeting

In attendance online: Wendy Aaronson, Bryan Barnett-Woods, Connie Bertka, Olivia Bobrowsky, Nancy Breen, Sophie Chan-Wood, Jake Jakubek, Bill Michie, Duwan Morris, Carl Petersen, Shannon Brescher Shea, Jonathan Solomon, Dave Stinchcomb and Tracy Threefoot.

Nancy started the meeting at 7:01 pm. Bryan requested approval of the November and December minutes. He announced that he will start recording this meeting.

(1) As part of the **City Update**, Bryan said the Town Center road diet is moving along with the proposal to install separated bike lanes on N Washington Street and bike lanes on E Middle Lane. He acknowledged receipt of Shannon's comments on bike boxes on Beall and N Washington.

The N Stonestreet project is also ongoing.

The Pedestrian Master Plan is in progress. There is an online survey so please feel free to provide comments. <https://engagerockville.com/pedestrian-master-plan>

As part of Vision Zero, a Near Miss Survey was created to report an accident or incident that is not officially reported. This will help compile data within the City of Rockville only.

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/76e278c504d34d829ee07fc20bf1f67a>

The City still has 6 inverted-U bike racks available.

(2) Carl provided the **Rides Update** and said the Holiday Lights ride on Thursday, 12/16 was successful with 34 participants and warm weather with temperatures in the 60s. He will provide a summary presentation at the February RBAC meeting along with some ideas for 2022 rides.

(3) Duwan Morris, the **Safe Routes to Schools** Coordinator for the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, was the special guest presenter. The main elements for the program include Education, Enforcement, Encouragement, Engineering and Evaluation. Prior to Covid, there were 18 partner schools with pedestrian and bicycle safety events. He hopes to initiate a Learn to Ride program in the school curriculum. The bike rodeo program with a mobile theater includes education like helmet fitting, rules of the road, hand signals, repetition and practice courses with cones and 15 bikes. MoCo Recreation helped with bike rodeos in Fall 2020 and Summer 2021.

Community events to teach and spread the word about bike safety, like a virtual safety week during the first week of May 2020. Over 300 children participated.

Every second grader has bike education in DC. Duwan is hoping to do this in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). Rodeos can be done in physical education curriculum but teachers would need to take the lead their gym periods. MCPS leadership needs to understand this is a life skill for safety and part of Vision Zero goals.

Duwan can help Tracy with Bike to School Day in May.

(4) As part of this SRTS efforts, Shannon will continue to speak at PTA meetings in elementary schools. Beale Elementary was looking for more bike racks and received some. Kids at Maryvale Elementary may not have bikes and parents had concerns about infrastructure. She will be speaking to College Gardens next and collect data on more obstacles.

(5) Bill and Nancy attended the Mayor and City Council meeting on 12/13 on **budget priorities**. Redesigning the Rockville Metro station was the big one. Connecting RedGate Park to Avery or Norbeck/CHMT with a bike lane was an idea. The roofs of the King Farm Barns are being preserved but need something to contribute to the economy. The Transfer station is part of the City's budget and could be a possible shortcut from King Farm to Shady Grove Road and connection to Gaithersburg.

(6) Jonathan updated that the **Tour de Cookie** will be starting at the Montgomery County Board of Education Carver Center off 355. Charlie Regan is the new executive director, previously on the Board of the Tree House. The Tour de Cookie needs RBAC expertise on re-routing and marshalling from this new start location. They are recruiting volunteers from other groups but want RBAC to play a key role. Jake, Nancy, Sophie and Wendy will help Jonathan as a subcommittee.

Tabled to February meeting:

- Bike racks (Wendy)
- Letter to Mayor and City Council re: contributory negligence law in Maryland (Jake and Wendy)
- Bike lane priorities

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Sophie Chan-Wood