

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
May 17, 2022
GOVERNMENT CENTER
10:00 A.M.**

Board Members Present:

Greg Brown, Chair, MBC Planning and Zoning
Ron Wildman, Citizen
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Rob Ryals, MBC Facilities Management
Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer
Charise Stephens, MBC Small Business Affairs
Henry Ficklin, MBC Executive Director of Community Affairs

Board Members Absent:

Major Brad Wolfe, BCSO
Lieutenant Scott Davis, BCSO
Myrtle Habersham, AARP
Molly Wilkins, Citizen
Rachel Hollar Umana, Vice Chair, Bike Walk Macon

Others Present:

Janet Birmingham Parker, Admin. Assistant
Sara Davis, MBC Asst. County Attorney
Kevin Poss, MBC Facilities Management
Taylor Stickels, Middle GA Regional Commission
Laura Corley, Mercer University CCJ
Chris Floore, MBC Chief Communications Officer
Bob Dallas, Consultant via Zoom
David Dickey, Citizen

Non-Members Absent:

Brandilyn Jackson, MBC Health Department
Jimmee Smith, MBC Health Department

Chairman Greg Brown called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Rob Ryals, Director, Facilities Maintenance, seconded of Dr. Henry Ficklin, Community Affairs and carried unanimously, the April 19, 2022, minutes.

Policy and Legislation

Greg Brown, MBC Planning and Zoning reported for Rachel Umana, Bike Walk Macon to remember the AARP webinar on May 18, 2022 with Complete Streets and Vision Zero. The updated link to register will be sent out to all board members.

Vision Zero

Bob Dallas, Consultant, reported via zoom, pending information from Georgia Department of Transportation will be presented at the next meeting. He will point out, at the next Vision Zero Board, how the Federal Government are doing more to distribute funds. GDOT will be changing its criteria by adding safety elements and orienting their funds through local FPOs.

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Mr. Brown mentioned his attendance at the webinars for the grants discussed as well as the eligible entities, eligible activities, and its purpose. There is a deadline of September 15, 2022 for MPO and Municipalities to apply. He will make sure all board members have access to this information and the website to apply for the grant.

On motion of Charise Stephens, seconded by Nigel Floyd and carried unanimously Dr. Henry Ficklin will work with the Mayor to present a letter to the Region Commission to apply for grants for the Pedestrian Safety.

Engineering

Nigel Floyd, traffic Engineering spoke regarding the Road Safety Audit of Shurling Drive, Gray Highway down to Walnut Creek showing many maintenance issues needing to be addressed by GDOT. The report will be distributed to the PSRB.

Enforcement

No report

Public Communication

Charise Stephens, MBC Small Business Affairs, introduced Chris Floore, MBC Chief Communications Officer, to the Board and discussed the importance of getting the community involved conducting Walking Audits. Mr. Floore suggested a Press Conference making citizens aware of the fatalities of pedestrians including the two accidents which recently occurred.

Mr. Floore discussed the importance of bringing awareness to the issues and how people can be involved in improving pedestrian safety. He continued that can be done through a combination of press conferences, direct communication, and videos. He went on to say during their press conference PSRB could speak on what has already been done, the funding being made available for infrastructure improvements, asking people to communicate their issues through the SeeClickFix, and announcing the first Walking Audit Training. Charise Stephens set the PSA filming date for Thursday May 26, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

There were discussions on the importance of improving the crosswalks, having funding for these projects, and making sure there is a line item specific for Pedestrian Safety Review Board with the help of Commissioner Lucas and Greg Brown.

Concerns were expressed on getting the Walking Audits completed with possible help from the Middle Georgia Regional Commission's NEG project.

David Dickey, Citizen, brought up many concerns. One item was the pedestrian island on Montpelier Avenue as a traffic hazard and pedestrians were not utilizing this safety device. He stated that crosswalks are needed near Washington Avenue and a crosswalk is needed on Cherry Street in front of the Rookery.

Charise Stephens said there were request for outreach so the Health Department will be involved during National Safety month at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Lizella, and Carolyn Crayton Park.

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Interagency Coordination

Charise Stephens reported Safe Routes to School Coordinator has been designated and the walking school bus will be in place next school year. The Board of Education has hired additional school crossing guards. There will be a Crossing Guard Appreciation Day as well.

Other Matters

Janet Birmingham Parker, Administrative Assistant, asked the Board for items they want placed on the Point of Actions list to be discussed at each meeting. Mr. Brown reiterated the importance of the list for the Board to have so these things don't fall through the crack.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Future meetings will be held in 2022:

- June 21
- July 19
- August 16
- September 20
- October 18
- November 15
- December 20.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Birmingham Parker

Administrative Assistant

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