

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD

April 18, 2017

10:00 A.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Ryan, Chairman
Elaine Lucas, Commissioner
Violet Poe, Citizen Member
Brad Belo, MBC P&Z Planner
Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer
Captain Brad Wolfe, MBSO
Tom Ellington, Professor, Wesleyan College
Rob Ryals, Facilities Management
Bessie Brown, Pilot International
Myrtle Habersham, AARP
David Gowan, BOE Risk Management

OTHERS PRESENT:

Stephanie Hyman, Health Department
Beverlyn Ming, Health Department
David Pilgrim, AARP
Yvonne Thomas, 13WMAZ
Robert Harden, Resident
Kaye Cleveland, Admin. Asst. to Clerk of the Commission
Denise Kelley, Asst. Clerk of the Commission

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sam Henderson, Mayor's Representative
Chris Tsavatewa, Co-Chairman
Leon Jones, Coroner

Approval of March 21, 2017 Minutes

Mr. Tom Ellington amended the Minutes to include the recommendation for adding bicycle lanes and narrowing the four-lane highway along a section of Anthony Road near Ingram/Pye. On motion by Mr. Ellington, seconded by Commissioner Elaine Lucas and passed unanimously, the minutes were approved as amended.

Policy and Legislation

No report

Engineering

Mr. Rob Ryals recommended adding four more streetlights to Jeffersonville Road near where a fatality occurred. Mr. Ryals contacted Georgia Power and a design for the lights was made and a monthly bill was generated. This will be presented at the next meeting.

Enforcement

Captain Brad Wolfe had nothing to report.

Public Communication – Ms. Violet Poe

Ms. Violet Poe, thanked Commissioner Lucas, Dr. Chris Tsavatewa, Ms. Beverlyn Ming, and the Board of Health for the in-kind donation to continue funding the "CROSS THE WALK" Pedestrian Safety Education Campaign through this fiscal year, and possibly the first 3 months into the beginning of the next fiscal year. This funding is continuing the education efforts of the campaign through the use of the movable billboards, convenience and package store signs,

public service announcements, and bus window wraps. Ms. Julie Moore, Manager to Budget & Strategic Planning, will send the invoices to Ms. Ming, to be paid each month.

PEDDY (Simeon Cullens) and PEDORA (Tesia Smith) participated in the 35th-Annual Cherry Blossom Parade on March 26, 2017 in downtown Macon. They rode on the antique fire truck with Commissioner Lucas, and had the opportunity to walk a portion of the parade route passing out 100 of the "Arrive Alive" wrist bands to parade on-lookers.

Commissioner Lucas, Chairman Michael Ryan and Coroner Leon Jones were the guests of Mama Mia (Shirley Ellis) on Middle Georgia Speaks, which aired on Sunday, April 9, 2017 on WIBB and V101.7. Mama Mia is the voice for the "CROSS THE WALK" public service announcements, which airs on three of the iHeartMedia radio stations.

The movable billboard for the month of April was scheduled to be located at Spencer Circle and Pio Nono. During Ms. Poe's monthly check, it was not posted at this location. Ms. Michelle Venio, Lamar Advertising, is checking in to the matter. The billboards, public service announcements, bus window wraps, and convenience and package store signs are consistently monitored by Ms. Poe.

Two applications for the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety "Innovative Grants" Highway Safety Programs FY2018 were submitted on Friday, April 14, 2017. A special thanks to Commissioner Lucas and Chairman Ryan for reviewing the project ideas for submission: Pedestrian "On The Move" and "Art History in the Crosswalk". Both of the submissions are geared towards educating the community on pedestrian safety and encouraging crosswalk use.

Mr. Nigel Floyd gave information on the in-ground LED lights on the crosswalk and stated the lights would be installed if the grant money was received.

Ms. Poe stated there were 13 budget forms in the grant application, but only 2 required assistance from the Budget Department (Regina Sweeney).

Ms. Poe will remain the Agency Administrator through the reviewing process of the applications in order to answer questions regarding the projects were submitted. Once funding is obtained, the new Agency Administrator will be Ms. Sherita Jones, Macon-Bibb County Budgets/Grants Manager.

Ms. Poe gave a special thanks to Mr. Brad Belo and Coroner Jones for providing her with important data to include in the application submissions, and to Commissioner Lucas, Coroner Jones and Mayor Reichert for their Letters of Support.

Ms. Myrtle Habersham, AARP, mentioned the need for reflectors on motorized wheelchairs. Ms. Poe responded by informing the group she and Chairman Ryan visit Senior Citizen Centers and churches to install reflectors on wheelchairs.

Commissioner Lucas opened a discussion regarding reflectors for wheelchairs, bicycles and walkers. Discussion ensued regarding providing the public with information about reflectors and the hazards of people utilizing motorized wheelchairs in public streets. Captain Wolfe stated any motorized vehicle with an engine under 50cc falls under the same category as a bicycle. He also stated people in motorized wheelchairs are considered pedestrians.

On motion by Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Ms. Habersham and passed unanimously, Ms. Poe and Chairman Ryan will coordinate with AARP for the purpose of placing reflectors on

motorized wheelchairs and reaching out to wheelchair users and seniors who do not live in elderly communities.

Interagency Coordination

No report

Other Matters

Guest Speaker Mr. Robert Harden gave an update on traffic calming in the Shirley Hills neighborhood. He thanked the Board for their assistance in reducing the speed limit on Nottingham Drive.

Mr. Floyd gave an overview of his report to the Board of Commissioners regarding the Feasibility Study. The purpose of the Study was to research ways to calm traffic at the Pio Nono/Houston Avenue/Broadway intersection. The Study is needed due to numerous crashes and fatalities between 2011 and 2015.

Mr. Floyd distributed a handout depicting alternatives for the intersection. The Board recommended the installation of a Signalized Intersection. On motion by Mr. Floyd, seconded by Ms. Bessie Brown, and passed unanimously, the Board will recommend to the Board of Commissioners a Signalized Intersection should be constructed.

Mr. Floyd reported Forest Hill Road is under the jurisdiction of GDOT, and nothing can be done until GDOT completes the roadwork and turns the road back over to the local jurisdiction. With regard to Newport and Matilda Hartley, the crosswalk lines are faded, and work orders have been submitted to have the crosswalk lines repainted.

Mr. Floyd discussed the crosswalk issue at Anthony Road at Felton Ave and Canton (Ingram-Pye Elementary). Mr. David Gowen, Risk Management – BOE, informed the group he will take Mr. Floyd's handout for the crosswalk recommendations to a Board meeting in May.

Chairman Ryan asked for an update regarding the Jeffersonville Road project. Mr. Floyd stated two amendments for the project were to be presented to the committee to be voted upon. Mr. Floyd also informed the group the amendments must be approved to have GDOT manage the project. Commissioner Lucas asked Mr. Floyd to invite Moreland-Altobelli to the next meeting.

Chairman Ryan notified the group he requested GDOT to perform a road safety audit of Pio Nono Avenue. GDOT denied his proposal affirming they only perform two audits in each district every year. Mr. Floyd briefed the group Macon-Bibb was in district 3 and GDOT performed audits in 31 districts each year. Mr. Belo stated there are other ways to have studies performed on Pio Nono and he would present suggestions to GDOT for a more persuasive proposal to have an audit of Pio Nono.

Chairman Ryan distributed to the group a copy of a draft letter to the Macon Telegraph he prepared. He asked the group to review it and provide any feedback to him.

Mr. Belo informed the group he is still in the process of preparing the project/recommendation spreadsheet. On motion by Mr. Floyd, seconded by Ms. Brown, and passed unanimously, the Pedestrian Safety Review Board will hold a Pedestrian Safety Summit. On motion by Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Mr. Floyd, and passed unanimously, AARP, the Health Department, MBC Planning & Zoning, Pilot International and Ms. Violet Poe will plan the Pedestrian Safety Summit.

Ms. Brown briefed the group on the Safety Fair that will take place on April 22nd from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on May 16, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

On motion by Mr. Floyd, seconded by Mr. Ryals and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kaye Cleveland
Recording Secretary