

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

April 16, 2019

10:00 A.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tom Ellington, Chairman
Greg Brown, MBC Planning & Zoning

Rob Ryals, MBC Facilities Management
Sam Henderson, Mayor's Representative
Myrtle Habersham, AARP
Michael Ryan, Citizen
David Gowan, Bibb County School District
Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kevin Poss, MBC Facilities Management
Kimberly Lowe, Middle GA Regional
Commission
Kaye Cleveland, Clerk of Commission
Bob Dallas, Vision Zero
Denise Mercer, Macon-Bibb County
Public Affairs Customer Service
Rachel Hollar, Bike Walk Macon

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Major Eric Walker, BCSO
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Violet Poe, Citizen
Ron Wildman, Citizen
Captain Brad Wolfe, BCSO

Chairman Tom Ellington called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Mr. Michael Ryan, seconded by Mr. Nigel Floyd and passed unanimously, the February 19, 2019 Minutes were approved.

Policy and Legislation

No Report

Engineering

Mr. Floyd briefed the Board regarding a discussion with Ms. Keisha Jones, Safe Routes to Schools. The schools that were submitted for safety studies already received funding for traffic calming.

Chairman Ellington opened discussion regarding a crosswalk at Forsyth Street and Arlington Place. Mr. Floyd advised a representative from GDOT recommended a Hawk System in said area, but funding would be needed. Mr. Ryan suggested a motion be made to recommend the Commission appropriate funds to provide for the installation of a Hawk System at Forsyth Street and Arlington Place. On motion by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Floyd and passed unanimously, the Pedestrian Safety Review Board will formally recommend the Macon-Bibb County Commission approve legislation to appropriate funds for a Hawk System at Forsyth Street and Arlington Place.

Mr. Floyd advised the Board there was not an update regarding pedestrian safety issues on Walnut Street in the construction area. Chairman Ellington elaborated regarding the dangers in relation to pedestrians crossing the bridge in the construction area. Mr. Floyd advised the Board he will discuss those pedestrian safety issues with GDOT.

Enforcement

Mr. Ryan opened discussion regarding the No Cell Phone Law. Mr. Ryan was advised the Georgia State Patrol will begin to enforce said legislation regarding cell phone usage in vehicles. Enforcement will commence after a 90-day grace period.

Ms. Myrtle Habersham opened discussion regarding signage at the Hardeman Avenue Exit on I-75 north and southbound. Ms. Habersham expressed concerns regarding vehicles going the wrong way in one-way traffic. The group was cautioned regarding the potential for major accidents because of improper signage.

Public Communication – Ms. Violet Poe

No Report

Interagency Coordination

Mr. Sam Henderson, Mayor's Office, did not have a formal report but asked for an update regarding Vision Zero Consultants reaching out to various organizations regarding the action plan for Macon-Bibb County. Mr. Bob Dallas gave an update regarding Vision Zero coordinating efforts with organizations in Macon-Bibb County. Chairman Ellington informed the group a work plan was finalized with input from citizens regarding traffic and pedestrian safety concerns.

See Click Fix – Denise Mercer

Denise Mercer, Macon-Bibb County Public Affairs Customer Service, gave a presentation on See Click Fix Program. Ms. Mercer gave an overview of said program and its functions. Citizens can visit the program website to make requests for items or issues to be addressed in Macon-Bibb County. See Click Fix also addresses items related to certain issues involving traffic and pedestrian safety.

Board Vacancies

Chairman Ellington prompted discussion regarding Board Vacancies. The group was informed a citizen member and a Board of Health Representative needed to be replaced. Mr. David Gowan was asked to give an update on a representative from the Board of Health. Mr. Gowan informed the Board he would ask for volunteers at the next Board of Health Meeting. Ms. Habersham suggested Mr. Brad Belo be nominated to be the citizen member to be added to the Board. On motion by Ms. Habersham, seconded by Mr. Henderson and passed unanimously, the Board will recommend Mr. Brad Belo to the Mayor for nomination as a citizen member of the Pedestrian Safety Review Board.

Chairman Ellington informed the Board he was accepted to Harvard, and he will not be able to perform his duties as Chairman. As discussion ensued, the motion for Mr. Belo to be a citizen member of the Pedestrian Safety Review Board was rescinded and a new motion was made. On motion by Ms. Habersham, seconded by Mr. Henderson and passed unanimously, the Pedestrian Safety Review Board will compile a list of people to recommend to the mayor for nomination for board membership and will request to expand the number of members of the Pedestrian Safety Review Board.

Vision Zero Work Plan

Chairman Ellington presented information to the Board regarding the work plan for Vision Zero. Mr. Dallas elaborated further regarding the Vision Zero Work Plan for Macon-Bibb. The Board was informed the work plan was almost finalized regarding identifying the next steps in improving Macon-Bibb County's transportation network. The next step will be to have a meeting with all stakeholders and discuss the final product in planning implementation of the Vision Zero Action Plan.

Safe Routes to School Safety Audit and Safe Routes to Parks Audit

Ms. Rachel Hollar, Bike Walk Macon, gave a report to the Board regarding the Safe Routes to School and Safe Routes to Parks Audits performed in Macon-Bibb County. Citizens met in Ingleside Village to observe the safety of walking and biking to different areas and parks in Macon-Bibb. Ms. Hollar reported issues regarding pedestrian safety and improvements made to help pedestrians in Macon-Bibb. Data from the audits will be shared with the Board later.

Pedestrian Access During Construction

Chairman Ellington prompted discussion with respect to pedestrian safety in construction areas in Macon-Bibb County. Ordinances regarding required safety measures and rights of ways and accessibility from Macon-Bibb and Atlanta Georgia were presented to the group. Chairman Ellington suggested implementation of parts of Atlanta's Ordinance in Macon-Bibb to enhance pedestrian safety in construction areas.

May PSRB Meeting

Chairman Ellington informed the Board he would be out of town on the scheduled date for the May PSRB Meeting. The group came to the consensus to reschedule said meeting for May 14th.

Crash Data

Mr. Greg Brown presented data on recent pedestrian crashes and fatalities. Mr. Floyd advised the Board construction on Jeffersonville Road was not a factor in the fatal pedestrian crash in said area. Discussion further ensued about the hazards and dangers of walking on Jeffersonville Road. An article about driving in Macon was presented as well. Macon was named the worst city for driving in Georgia.

Chairman Ellington adjourned the meeting.

Future meetings will be held on the following dates in 2019: May 14, June 18, July 16, and August 20.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye Cleveland
Recording Secretary