

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY REVIEW BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
December 17, 2019
10:00 A.M.**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Brown, MBC Planning & Zoning,
Chair
Rachel Hollar Umana, Bike Walk Macon,
Vice Chair
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Captain Brad Wolfe, BCSO
Rob Ryals, MBC Facilities Management
Charise Stephens, Georgia Wellness &
Fitness Festival
Michael Ryan, Citizen
Ron Wildman, Citizen
Sam Henderson, Director – MBC Small
Business Affairs

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kaye Cleveland, Clerk of Commission
Michele Harris, MBC Assistant County
Attorney
Tom Ellington, Citizen
Bob Dallas, Vision Zero
Koryn Young, Bike Walk Macon
Liz Fabian, Mercer University Center for
Collaborative Journalism
Sherita Jones, MBC Budget & Strategic
Planning

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Nigel Floyd, MBC Traffic Engineer
Myrtle Habersham, AARP
Lieutenant Scot Davis, BCSO
Commissioner Joe Allen, MBC Health
Department
David Gowan, Bibb County School
District

Chairman Greg Brown called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Vice Chair Rachel Umana, seconded by Mr. Sam Henderson and passed unanimously, the minutes from the November 19, 2019 Meeting were approved.

Policy and Legislation

Vice Chair Umana opened discussion regarding the Complete Streets Compliance Policy. The group was advised Mr. Nigel Floyd and Mr. David Fortson, MBC Engineering Department reviewed said policy after the November PSRB Meeting. Vice Chair Umana reviewed changes made to the policy.

Ms. Charise Stephens opened discussion having a member of the Pedestrian Safety Review Board participate as a voting member on the Complete Streets Compliance Committee would be formed in accordance with the Complete Streets Compliance Policy. On motion by Commissioner Elaine Lucas, seconded by Mr. Henderson and passed unanimously, the PSRB Chair or his/her designee will serve as a member of the Complete Streets Compliance Policy Committee.

Engineering

Mr. Rob Ryals gave an update regarding the Road Safety Audit conducted on Mercer University Drive. Said audit was performed in conjunction with the Georgia Department of Transportation on the section starting at the fork on Columbus Road and ending at Bloomfield Drive. Mr. Ryals informed the group results from GDOT were pending.

Commissioner Lucas informed the group members Mr. Fortson and other department directors were retiring at the end of the month. She asked Chairman Brown to write a letter expressing appreciation to them for their service to the county on behalf of the PSRB. On motion by Commissioner Lucas, seconded by Mr. Henderson and passed unanimously, Chairman Brown will write a letter expressing appreciation.

Enforcement

Captain Brad Wolfe informed the group enforcement activity increased and the Sheriff Department was still in the process of implementing a project regarding non-speeding related enforcement to reduce pedestrian crashes.

Interagency Coordination

No report

Public Communication

Chairman Brown advised the group of the vacancy for the chair of Public Communication. Board members were notified of efforts to find a chair for the committee. Chairman Brown asked board members for nominations. Commissioner Lucas informed group members Ms. Julie Moore, MBC Budget, and Strategic Planning, would be the contact person regarding the Pedestrian on the Move Grant.

Census 2020 Representative

Board members discussed the presentation given by Jessica Walden regarding the 2020 Census. Chairman Brown requested a PSRB Member work with Ms. Walden to assist with the effort to reach out to citizens regarding census participation. Mr. Ron Wildman was nominated as the contact person to work with Ms. Walden.

Discussion: Open streets outside of Urban Core

Mr. Michael Ryan opened discussion regarding expanding Open Streets Macon outside of the urban core. Mr. Ryan briefed the Board regarding underserved communities outside of Downtown Macon. He further iterated expanding Open Streets Macon to other areas would

encourage citizens to cycle and engage in outdoor activities and canvas their neighborhoods and provide feedback regarding areas of concern with respect to the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.

Mr. Ryan named possible areas of expansion for Open Streets Macon. Said areas included Main, Ash, Telfair, First and Second Streets and Lynmore Estates. Former PSRB Chair Mr. Tom Ellington elaborated further regarding Mr. Ryan's concerns and briefed the group regarding accomplishments of the PSRB and future efforts to address pedestrian and cyclist safety issues. Mr. Ellington also suggested the PSRB should form a partnership with Bike Walk Macon to assist with expanding Open Streets Macon to expose different communities to activities and serve them.

Commissioner Lucas agreed with Mr. Ryan with respect to the need to discuss equity in communities served in Macon-Bibb County in a non-organizational setting. Commissioner Lucas suggested to include pedestrian safety education efforts in the expansion of an outreach center planned soon. She also suggested Bike Walk Macon ask about funding through the Community Development Block Grants offered through MBC Economic & Community Development Department to fund projects.

Vision Zero: Timeline & Next Milestone

Mr. Bob Dallas, Vision Zero, reviewed the timeline and upcoming milestones for Vision Zero. Board members were briefed regarding the progress of Program Implementation in Macon-Bibb. Discussion ensued regarding Vision Zero Workshops and setting a deadline to decrease the number of pedestrian fatalities and serious injuries to zero. Mr. Ellington advised the group regarding setting a realistic and aggressive deadline to ensure adequate efforts can be made to achieve the goals of Vision Zero. Group members discussed making changes to the Vision Zero Action Plan to advance said goals as well.

Sherita Jones – Grant Funding Availability

Ms. Sherita Jones, MBC Budget, and Strategic Planning discussed grant funding availability for the Pedestrian on the Move Grant issued by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS). Ms. Jones informed the group of pending changes to said grant and work done in conjunction with GOHS. Documentation of revenue and expenditures was presented to the group. Board members were informed for the period ending on September 30, 2019, there was \$7,099.20 left in grant funding for the fiscal year.

Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Future meetings will be held on the following dates in 2020: January 21; February 18; March 17; April 21; May 19 and June 16.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye Cleveland
Recording Secretary

December 17, 2019