

PEDESTRIAN FATALITY REVIEW BOARD

January 19, 2016

10:00 A.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Ryan, Chairman
Chris Tsavatewa, Vice Chairman
Violet Poe
Nigel Floyd
Lt. Brad Wolfe
Sam Henderson
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Rob Ryals

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Capt. Eric Walker

OTHERS PRESENT:

David Gowan, Exc. Dir. Risk Mgmt.
Megan Chapman, Health Department
Bessie Brown, Pilot International
24WGXA – Tavares Jones
41NBC News – Alexa Rodriguez

GUESS PRESENT:

David Pilgrem, AARP Age Friendly Advisory Board
Myrtle Habersham, AARP State President
Kevin Poss, Facilities Management
Gregory L. Brown - MBC P&Z Senior Planner
Brad Belo – MBC P&Z Planner
Cam Yearty–Middle GA Regional Commission

Chairman Michael Ryan called the meeting to order.

On motion by Vice-Chairman Chris Tsavatewa, seconded by Mr. Sam Henderson and passed unanimously the minutes of December 15, 2015 were approved.

Subcommittee Reports:

Engineering:

Mr. Nigel Floyd, Macon Bibb County Traffic Engineering Department, informed the Board that the Road Safety Audit was cancelled due to inclement weather. The rescheduled audit will be Friday, January 22, 2016 at MBC Traffic Engineering Office at 415 Hemlock Street starting at 8:00 a.m. Invitations were extended to any Board Member, The Transit Authority and the Sheriff's Office to survey various areas and provide input to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT).

On motion by Commissioner Elaine Lucas, seconded by Mr. Floyd and passed unanimously, suggestions and recommendations to GDOT pertaining to pedestrian safety were approved.

Interagency Coordination:

Mr. Chris Tsavatewa provided an update on the Traffic Safety Summit scheduled for early spring and informed the Board of local and state summits. Ms. Nancy White, Bibb County Public Health Department, is coordinating with Mr. Bob Dallas to be the guest speaker at the Summit. Mr. Tsavatewa will keep the Board informed on the progress as time permits.

On motion by Mr. Tsavatewa, seconded by Mr. Sam Henderson and passed unanimously, Mr. Dallas will be issued an invitation to meet the Board during the summit in early spring was approved.

Mr. Tsavatewa recognized Macon-Bibb County Planning & Zoning Commission Members, Brad Belo, Planner, Gregory Brown, Senior Planner and Middle Georgia Regional Commission, Cam Yearty. He would like to have data update on accidents and fatalities utilizing P&Z and MGRC databases.

On motion by Mr. Tsavatewa, seconded by Commissioner Lucas and passed unanimously, coordinating efforts with P&Z and MGRC to collect data from GIS (Geographic Information System) Maps utilizing county wide updates pertaining to accidents and fatalities were approved.

Enforcement:

Lt. Brad Wolfe informed the Board that Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety will no longer provide brochures or related materials. Lt. Wolfe provided the Board with handouts of suggestions promoting pedestrian safety; Stay Safe When Crossing the Street, Pedestrian Safety Tips and What Georgia Drivers Must Know About Pedestrians. The Health Department will make some improvements to the handouts with implementing color to make it more appealing and will distribute to the local schools as part of the promotion.

Mr. Belo, Mr. Brown and Mr. Yearty provided insight on their organizations. P&Z will provide data as to the different areas of fatality accidents using the GEARS (Georgia Electronic Accident Reporting System) Program. Information will be available upon request. Mr. Yearty stated that MGRC participates in the Safe Route to School Program and provides local assistance with the Department of Workforce Development and Area Agency on Aging.

Public Communications:

Ms. Stephanie Hyman, Bibb County Public Health Department presented the Board with a coloring book that will be presented to school students. Ms. Brown would like to issue some of the books to first and second graders during Piolet International's upcoming festival puppet shows.

Polit International would like to partner with Bibb County Public Health Department to distribute materials to the schools, and is willing to donate bicycle helmets to help support awareness. Ms. Brown extended the invitation to the Bibb County Public Health Department representatives to attend their next meeting.

Mr. David Gowan updated the Board on the progress of the MOU for the school zone signs and provided a sample of various safety systems to review. Ms. Elaine Wilson, Board of Education Purchasing Department, is finalizing the RFP. Mr. Gowan pointed out different programs that the Safe Route to School is utilizing which includes: Walking School Bus (Adult Supervision),

Cross Walk Education (Campus Police) and Bicycle Rodeo. Mr. Gowan will provide additional information in the upcoming meetings.

Ms. Violet Poe updated the Board on the status of the mascot's uniforms for the "Cross The Walk" Campaign. Ms. Poe spoke with a seamstress and suggestions were made on modifications to the logos for the uniforms. She provided the Board with the pedestrian crossing displays that might be placed in various business and schools. Ms. Poe suggested raising media's attention by placing advertisements with the Transit Authority on buses, News and Radio Broadcasting, window signs and possible reflectors on mobile wheelchairs.

AARP and the Bibb County Public Health Department will be hosting a class on Driver's Safety to the general public April 29, 2016.

Presentation by AARP Age Friendly Advisory Board, David Pilgrem and AARP State President, Ms. Myrtle Habersham:

Mr. David Pilgrem provided handouts on Age Friendly Communities and briefed the Board on Macon-Bibb County leaders' involvement with the Age Friendly Communities implementation and evaluation pertaining to the program cycle. Mr. Pilgrem introduces Ms. Myrtle Habersham, AARP State President. Ms. Habersham gave a brief bio of her involvement in the Organization and how vital it is to have the support of the Pedestrian Fatality Review Board. She also recognized the different organizations and people involvement in the community that plays a vital role with AARP. AARP volunteers provided support during the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday providing water and materials at different stations to citizens participating in the march.

Other Matters:

- A. Allocation of funds from the Bibb County Public Health Department and the Sheriff's Office is pending final approval by the Mayor and Commissioners. Accountability measures will be provided as to the expenditure of funds to ensure proper usage.
- B. The Road Safety Audit rescheduled date is Friday, January 22, 2016 pending the weather.
- C. Red Light Running Cameras – looking at other technology on this subject. Previous considerations on this matter suggested further reviews; pro's/cons on benefits and the legal ramifications and requires the Sheriff's Department input. More information is required and the Board will be advised.
- D. Identification of hazardous pedestrian sites will be discussed with GDOT during the road safety audit.

A quarterly report to the Public Safety Committee on collective accomplishments of improvements/enhancements was suggested. Recommendations on street/road repairs, storm drainage improvements, and crossing signals should be discussed as well for SPLOST projects as a presentation to the Committee.

Chairman Ryan spoke of the dangerous intersection and sidewalk ending in front of Ingram Pye Elementary School, Anthony Road and Jeff Davis that require attention. Mr. Floyd informed the Board of the Mayor's office awareness and plans are in progress.

Chairman Ryan asked if there was any further business to discuss. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Charletta Y. Price
Recording Secretary