

**MINUTES
CITY OF ORMOND BEACH
QUALITY OF LIFE ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

January 7, 2016

6:00 PM

**City of Ormond Beach
Training Room
22 South Beach Street
Ormond Beach, Florida**

1) Call to Order

Recording Secretary Shá Moss called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present were: Debbie Berner, William Masters, Brian Nave, Kathy Page, Troy Railsback and Dr. Philip Shapiro.

Staff present were: City Manager Joyce Shanahan, Planning Director Ric Goss and Recording Secretary Shá Moss.

2) Election of Chairman

Shá Moss called for nominations for Chairman.

Mr. Masters moved, seconded by Ms. Berner to nominate Dr. Shapiro as Chairman of the Quality of Life Advisory Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Shapiro accepted the nomination. He thanked the Board and noted it was an honor and privilege to serve. Dr. Shapiro stated that the Chair of the Quality of Life Advisory Board also serves as the Chair of the Art Museum Board. He noted he has been on the Quality of Life Advisory Board since 1996 and has missed only one meeting during that time, but was confident that if he was unavailable that Debbie Berner would be able to step in and Chair the meeting as Vice Chair if elected.

3) Election of Vice Chairman

Dr. Shapiro called for nominations for Vice Chairman.

Mr. Nave moved, seconded by Ms. Page to nominate Ms. Berner as Vice-Chairman of the Quality of Life Advisory Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Berner accepted the nomination.

4) Approval of Minutes – September 3, 2015

Corrections were made on page 4 of the September 3, 2015, minutes.

Ms. Berner moved seconded by Ms. Page to accept the minutes of the September 3, 2015 meeting, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

5) Administrative Matter

Dr. Shapiro asked that when the email is received regarding the upcoming meeting, to please reply either way on whether you will be attending the meeting because a quorum is needed for each meeting.

a. Establishment of Regular Meeting Schedule and Time

Dr. Shapiro stated the Board has been meeting at 6:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month and asked whether the Board was okay with that time or if changes needed to be made. The Board agreed to continue the same time and day of the meetings.

b. Sunshine Law

Dr. Shapiro stated regarding the Sunshine Law, transparency is important. You cannot communicate with each other about Board business outside of a publically advertised meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact staff.

Ms. Shanahan reminded the members to not hit "Reply to All" when responding to emails.

6) Audience Comments

Dwight Selby introduced himself as a candidate for Zone 1 City Commissioner. James Stowers currently holds that seat and has announced that he was not running for re-election. Mr. Selby has been a resident of Ormond Beach for over 30 years and is a real estate broker and developer.

7) Discussion Items

a. State of The City 2015 – video presentation

Dr. Shapiro noted he saw the State of the City video presentation at the luncheon and noted it was an excellent presentation of that the City is doing and has done over the years.

After the Board reviewed the video, Dr. Shapiro asked whether there was a railroad spur at the industrial park.

Ms. Shanahan stated there was not a need for it at this time. She noted that the greater need was access to the airport, which was being worked on.

Dr. Shapiro asked whether the City plans an Amtrak station in the future; wherein Ms. Shanahan answered, not at this time.

b. City Bike Plan – Draft 2015

Planning Director Ric Goss thanked the Board for the invite to be on the agenda. He noted the City has been looking at the idea of a City Bike Plan for a number of years and finally got it moving with the assistance of an intern from University of Florida. He stated the Bike Plan was structured so when it was presented to funding sources it met the criteria. Should the Bike Plan be approved, it would be integrated into the Comprehensive Plan Mobility Study.

Mr. Goss noted there were three groups of bicyclist:

1. The advanced bicyclist that shared the road with the motorist
2. The intermediate bicyclist that used the shoulder of the road
3. The families with children that won't ride in the road or paved areas but preferred separate multi-use paths

The Bike Plan provided for all three groups. The Bike Plan covers paths of 8-10 feet, they are separate and some connect parks or run along the side of the road. There is a policy that stated when redoing a road that you have to put in paved shoulders.

Mr. Goss reviewed the City Bike Plan

- 10.65 miles of paved shoulders within the City
- 2 designated bike lanes totaling 17.42 miles in the City – SR 40 and US1
He noted FDOT designated them because of bike accidents
- 2 miles of shared use in the City – one in Tomoka State Park from Inglesa Avenue to the mouth of the State Park and it's 8' wide and the other was in Central Park
- 5.91 miles of multi use path 8' wide mainly around schools linking neighborhoods
- 33.98 miles – Ormond Scenic Loop and Trail – shared lanes with motorists

- 4 cross jurisdictional trails are planned that traverse Ormond Beach – they are State trails which would allow State funding.
- City requires bike facilities for public and private development – the City is also putting in stand-alone a bike repair station at Bailey Riverbridge and at Fortunato Park
- 2010-2014 Statistics: 90 bicycle crashes involving 1 fatality and 85 injuries – 31 injuries in Ormond Beach. Most occur at driveways or intersections and occur between 4-6:00 pm on Wednesdays. Ormond Beach has the highest bike crash rate per capita in the State of Florida.
Dr. Shapiro asked whether the statistics were by age; where in Mr. Goss stated he did not have an age breakdown.
- The most common crash is a right angle crash. That is where the driver is looking left to pull out and the bicycle is coming from the right and goes unseen. If the bicycle is on the sidewalk, he is considered a pedestrian. If the bike is riding on the shoulder, he is considered a motorist and has failed to yield.
- 15 miles of multi-use path are proposed to be added by this plan
- 1 small fixed span bridge is proposed – a pedestrian bridge going over a canal
- Cost of the plan is estimated at \$5.3 million – 90% of funds will be requested from FDOT through the Transportation Planning Organization and the City will match it and some of those funds will come from the mobility fee that is collected from developers for bicycle trails.
- Cost-benefit of Bike Plan: Estimated \$10 million in reduces injury and health benefits over the plan's 10 years horizon

Mr. Goss noted the Bike Plan was flexible enough that more can be added. He wanted to have a Wiki map for bicyclist to use their cell phone and upload photos and information on why they like and don't like certain areas. Neighborhood meetings have started. There was one in Chelsea Place in November and they were excited about the Bike Plan. Future meetings are scheduled for the Northbrook subdivision. Most families love the idea, but you have older individuals that are concerned about crime and privacy. The Bike Plan has also been presented to the Public Works Advisory Board and they recommended the project. If the trails are built as planned, you would be able to go from Central Park to Highbridge and the State wants to link to Tomoka State Park.

Ms. Berner asked whether FPL will partner with the easement; wherein Mr. Goss answered he was unsure if FPL has ever been asked, but he knew they worked out agreements for projects in the past.

Dr. Shapiro stated the \$5.36 million would not come out of general revenue, but asked about the maintenance costs.

Mr. Goss stated that maintenance for about 100 trails would be about \$32,604 per year from the general funds.

Mr. Masters asked what the probability of the Bike Plan coming to fruition.

Mr. Goss stated the City Commission has already approved a Local Assistance Program Agreement that allows the Engineering Division to design and that has been funded through FDOT. The City's match would be the design cost.

Ms. Shanahan stated one of the City's priorities was to provide safe route to children to ride to and from school.

Mr. Goss stated there would be a lighted connector from Forest Hill Subdivision to Tomoka Elementary School. He noted some portions of the Bike Plan will take a little longer but the design will be in place.

Ms. Shanahan stated that the Bike Plan was in the drafting stage; once the Boards reviews and public meetings were completed, it would be presented to the City Commission. The Commission currently has the Draft Bike Plan. The trail going to the State Park has been on the City's radar for a while and was in the CIP unfunded projects. She noted it would be a coordinated effort not only with the state agencies and the County, but with the residential homeowners that abut the property. It would be a diligent transparent process to gain their feedback on the trails.

Mr. Goss stated the Bike Plan was sourced by footnotes so when they are presented for funding, they would be able to review the footnotes.

Mr. Nave asked about the maintenance cost and the cost for lighting.

Ms. Shanahan stated that the maintenance for the bike trails would be new costs budgeted annually going forward. When the Capital Improvement Master Plan and the CIP budget are being worked out, infrastructure and maintenance costs are considered.

Mr. Goss stated the lighting was included in the costs.

Mr. Nave stated that the trails are one thing that makes Ormond Beach great and the bike trails was a very good use of funds. It was also very responsive to the community's needs.

Mr. Nave moved, seconded by Ms. Berner that the Quality of Life Advisory Board endorses the City Bike Plan in that it reflects the needs and wants of the City and is responsive to the accident reports. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Berner asked if there was any discussion regarding the Granada Bridge; wherein Ms. Shanahan stated she was unaware of any modifications to the bridge but noted that the bridge was also governed by FDOT. There is already a bike lane on the bridge.

Ms. Shanahan noted the City had FDOT increase the number of roadway pavement markers on the edge of the road on the bridge and the bicycle path.

Mr. Goss stated FDOT has changed the bike lane from 4' to 5' pave shoulders for the bridge.

8) Member Comments

Board Vacancy

Ms. Berner asked about the vacancy on the Board and would it be filled.

Ms. Shanahan stated that the City Commission has been advised of the vacancy.

Dr. Shapiro stated that even the absence of one member could default into not having a quorum which is why it is important to have everyone present. He noted the CIP was coming up soon.

Mr. Railsback asked that the CIP meeting date not be changed like it was last year.

Votran Bus System

Dr. Shapiro stated as time goes along more people won't be driving in this community, but there are Votran buses that are almost empty because the ridership in Ormond Beach is not the same as in other communities. He asked whether a smaller bus could run in Ormond Beach.

Mr. Nave asked Dr. Shapiro what his comments about less people driving was based on.

Dr. Shapiro stated when people get to a certain age they prefer not to drive especially if it is heavy traffic. He wanted Ormond Beach to be treated different than other communities regarding the bus system.

Ms. Shanahan stated Votran is a County transportation system and the City could not afford to enter into a transportation plan by itself. It was her impression that the transportation system was currently underfunded. The ridership wasn't there and it doesn't pay the full cost of providing that service. She noted during the summer months there was a smaller bus that went along A1A from Bellaire Plaza over Granada Boulevard to the museum. The demand was from tourist travel.

Dr. Shapiro noted more people of age moved to this area.

Code Ordinance

Dr. Shapiro asked for an update on the code revisions.

Ms. Shanahan stated the Legal Department was working on the Ordinance and revisions to bring back to the Board.

9) Adjournment – Next Meeting – February 4, 2016

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shá Moss, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

Dr. Philip J. Shapiro, Chairman