

**Minutes – Final  
TCBA Advocacy Committee  
September 13, 2016 Meeting  
Neighborhood Empowerment Center  
6:30-8:00 p.m.**

**Attending:** Steve Leiby, Dean Brailey, Lenny Provencher, Nancy Krupiarz, Dan Stockwell, Kevin Schumaker, Mike Dombrowski, Jeanne Wright, Art Slabosky, Phil Wells,

**GUEST:** Adrienne Wein

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Urgent Business—
  - A. Ingham County (IC) Commissioner Teri Banas & Parks Director Tim Morgan on the County Trails Millage:
    1. Overall, there is much catch-up work to be done on many trails and the estimated amount of millage funds will not cover this work. Thus the Trail Task Force set up a system that encourages communities to use the millage funds to leverage money from other sources
    2. Recent work:
      - a. Hawk Island County Park—The repaving project is 95% done.
      - b. Oakland Avenue Bridge on the Lansing River Trail--work started on Sept. 13
    3. Allocation of funds:
      - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Round:
        - i. It dealt with repairs, rehabilitation, and long-term maintenance (RR&M) projects. Funds came from the FY 2015 & FY 2016 millages
        - ii. Four communities (East Lansing, Lansing, Mason & Meridian) submitted applications
        - iii. \$5.5 million were allocated to asphalt repaving of 36 trail segments (\$788,000) [equaling 15 miles of trail] and to 21 bridge projects (\$4.73 million).
      - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Round:
        - i. Will deal mainly with new construction, special projects, and RR&M. Funds will come from the FY 2017 millage.
        - ii. Applications will be available on Oct.1 and the due date is Nov. 28.

- iii. An Informational meeting on the application process will be held on October 5, (2:00 pm Hilliard Building, 121 East Maple St., Mason – Room A, First Floor)
- c. Trails Coordinator:
  - i. Due to the varied and detailed skill sets that were identified for this job, the County will outsource to contractors/consultants for specific tasks (see separate “IC Trails Consultant RFP”)
  - ii. The Parks Budget Committee on September 20 will discuss this position.
  - iii. After two years, the County will evaluate this approach
- d. Volunteer efforts:
  - i. The Friends of the Lansing Regional Trails:
    - (a) Is drafting Memorandums of Understanding with the various jurisdictions about activities.
    - (b) Has started a Trail Ambassador program (<http://lansingtrails.org/Trail-Ambassador/>)
    - (c) Plans to meet again to discuss with Ingham County officials in October 2016 (Planning Committee on the 17th, Budget 18<sup>th</sup>, and the full Park Commission on the 24th.
  - ii. The County is open to suggestions about any aspect of public involvement
- e. Funding signs for projects
  - i. Permanent signs— IC Parks will be working with the Spicer Group on a design
  - ii. Temporary signs-- The Park Commission will revisit this master at its September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. A final copy should get printed soon after and distributed to the local entities. Other items:
- f. Lansing River Trail section closures—After the meeting, Tim contacted Andy Kilpatrick who replied: “We will post all of the project closures to social media. We also send the information to the Friends of Lansing Regional Trails to they can post the information. One of the challenges will be the phasing of the project and making sure we have viable detours, which I’m not sure we will have in all cases.”
- g. Ingham County urges jurisdictions to perform adjacent bridge & asphalt work simultaneously
- h. Way finding – One task of a Trails Consultant will be to lead the County Parks and community stakeholders in the development of

way finding and signage design, concepts, and implementation program.

- B. Bike Parking at Eastwood Town Mall:
  1. Adrienne Wein and Mike D. told about their negative experiences with the Mall about parking their bikes
  2. Mike D. will draft a letter to the Mall about lack of bicycle facilities & the unnecessarily negative tone of warning letters which have been placed on bikes

#### IV. Old Business:

- A. Public officials at upcoming Advocacy Committee meetings—Oct. 12: MDOT’s Will Thompson; Nov. 9: IC Roads Dept.’s Bill Conklin
- B. LSJ letter on Bicycle Fatalities—
  1. Appeared in the Aug. 23 issue (<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/opinion/readers/2016/08/23/letters-editor/89117688/>). So far there was no negative replies
  2. People then recounted an uptick of anti-bike hostilities, especially during DALMAC in the Petoskey/Harbor Springs area
- C. Questions for Political Candidates—Dan will be doing the techie work on this. We will have the replies posted on a separate section on the TCBA site.
- D. Governors Traffic Safety Advisory Commission ([http://www.michigan.gov/msp/0,4643,7-123-72297\\_64773\\_41646---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/msp/0,4643,7-123-72297_64773_41646---,00.html)) September meeting—Lenny and Mike attended. Both think this group’s meeting are very informative and that we should have a member attend. Apparently LMB attends a separate bike/ped subcommittee.
- E. Tri-County Regional Planning Commission’s *Draft: Moving Towards Zero Deaths on Tri-County Region Michigan Roads: 2016 Regional Transportation Safety* – Mike U. neglected to get a TCBA comment out on this document. He’s checking with TCRPC on its status.
- F. Bike Clinics: “Let’s Pedal: How to Have Safe & Enjoyable Bicycling” – due to some personnel changes at the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program, this project has been pushed into 2017
- G. BRT:
  1. In August, TCBA sent letters to CATA and the affected jurisdictions stating its position on BRT, i.e., abide by Complete Streets legislation, along with some suggestions on bicycle facilities.
  2. CATA replied that we can enter into discussions with them
  3. Tim Potter formed a subcommittee to conduct our end of the dialog.
- H. Narrow lane widths:

1. Art passed a handout Federal Highway Administration's "Context Sensitive Solutions" (see "Trail Width" document)
2. The take away is that there is no optimum lane width; it depends on the type of road
3. Art commented that roads with ample shoulders tend to encourage people to drive faster while narrow shoulders tend to make drivers slow down.

#### V. New Business:

- A. Speaker's Bureau proposal (see separate document) –Dean, & Steve will work with Dan and Kevin on a prototype which will be presented to the TCBA Board at its Oct. 4 meeting
- B. Bike Safety bills at the Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee:
  1. TCBA sent a letter to the Committee supporting the package of legislation
  2. The Committee will hold a hearing on Sept. 20 in Room 110 of the Farnum Office Building (125 W. Allegan Street) at 3 p.m.
- C. Bath Bicycle Day—The Committee supports this event. Dan will; take to Board at its Oct. 4 meeting
- D. Regional Non-Motorized Transportation (NMT) plans—Steve mentioned:
  1. Delhi Township: There will be an October 7 meeting on revising itNMT plan 10/10 7 pm revision
  2. Delta NMT: There is work on actually implementing the plan. The goal is connecting with the Lansing River Trail
- E. Next Meeting (Oct. 12)-- Mike U. will be away. Nancy will chair the meeting; Steve will take notes. Nancy will send a confirmation email to MDOT's Will Thompson