



**Bicycle/Trails Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 29, 2018
Chesapeake General Hospital Lifestyles Center
5:00 p.m.**

Voting Members Present:

Chad Triolet
Helen Gabriel
Steve Allen
Tammy Hill
Aaron Bull
Tim Stephens
Rob Anderson
Doug Connolly
Sam Leary

Voting Members Not Present:

Laura Fitzgerald
John Arthur
Don Putman

Staff Present/Others Present:

Benjamin Camras, Planning Department
Kevin Kaul, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department
Tom Lilley, Tidewater Bicycle Association (TBA)
Fred Casipoppo, Tidewater Bicycle Association (TBA)

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 PM by Chairman Chad Triolet.

Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

Minutes from the October 16, 2017 meetings were approved as submitted.

Old Business

City Council Advisory Letter: Benjamin Camras stated the letter had been received by City Council.

New Business

PRT Update: Kevin Kaul provided an update regarding the paving of soft paths in Western Branch, which is a coordinated effort with Public Works. Kevin Kaul also stated that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will create a Visitor's Center at the trail head of the Great Dismal Swamp Canal Trail.

Facebook Page Updates: Aaron Bull provided the committee with the analytics (page views, unique visits) for the Facebook page. The group discussed ways to increase page views, which include sharing posts made on the Facebook page and tagging the Facebook group in posts. The committee has changed its Facebook handle to be more easily found.

NACDD Grant Application: Benjamin Camras stated Chesapeake was not selected for the NACDD conference this year. However, the application experience was positive and there are tangible goals to improve next year's application.

City Council Retreat/Bike Plan Update: Benjamin Camras stated the September 2017 City Council retreat had a large focus on open space preservation and access, which could bode well for a future citywide bike plan. Aaron Bull mentioned that Richmond has a private company that may not use public funds to provide bikes for Capital Trail riders.

Bike Share Initiative: Benjamin Camras introduced the idea of a bike share in Chesapeake as City staff had been contacted by a bike sharing vendor. After discussion, the committee decided the City was not quite ready to implement a bike share program.

Regional Active Transportation Plan: Benjamin Camras provided the committee with an update of the status of the plan, which has completed the vision statement and goal making steps and is now undergoing an existing conditions analysis.

BikeFest 2018: Aaron Bull stated that TBA is disbanding, which will affect vendor participation at BikeFest. The group discussed whether possible donations from TBA could be accepted as they liquidate their assets. The group decided that TBA donations would not be feasible because it would have to go through the City Council public hearing process, which could mean any potential funds would not be available in time for BikeFest. The group discussed that material items may be able to be received as donations from TBA.

Follow-up Item: Coordination with TBA about possibly acquiring material assets that could be used for future events.

2018 Meeting Schedule: Benjamin Camras provided a 2018 meeting schedule calendar for the committee and will push out Outlook notifications for each meeting date.

Elections: Chad Triolet stated the chair and co-chair positions would be rotated so that new and/or existing members could attain a leadership position within the committee.

Open Discussion

TBA members present inquired about how to obtain orange bags for volunteer trash pickups because they need the correct bags for recyclable items.

Follow-up Item: PRT will help coordinate with volunteers doing trash pick up to get them orange bags.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

BGC