

Town of Vienna

Bicycle Advisory Committee

AGENDA

January 20th, 2011

8:00 pm

1. Approval of November Meeting Minutes
2. FABB planning book – Bruce Wright & Fionnuala Quinn
3. Safe Routes to School grant – Sharon to update
4. Courthouse Rd – “Bike Route” changes
 - a. TSC comments
5. Unsafe Biking on W&OD update
 - a. better signage
6. Village Green Property – Bike Rack(s) – Bob to update
7. New Action items/ discussion
 - a. New BAC Chairman
8. Adjourn

Minutes

Attending: Drew Meren, Dave Schultz, Charlie Strunk, Sean McCall, Chris Janoski, Maria Borja, Jeff Palmer, Bob McCahill, Bruce Wright, Fionnuala Quinn, Steve Kenney

1. The minutes from the November TOVBAC meeting were approved.
2. FABB planning book – Bruce Wright & Fionnuala Quinn. FABB is an all-volunteer advocacy group that works with various jurisdictions. FABB meets monthly on the 3rd Wednesday at 7:30pm, and invites speakers to attend. Web site is www.FABB-BIKES.org. FABB communicates via Facebook, Twitter, a blog, and a bi-monthly newsletter, and can send advocacy alerts to a mailing list of 850 individuals. On specific issues, FABB does targeted mailings. They are affiliated with the nonprofit Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA), and promote gratifying safety efforts such as free bike-light giveaways, for which they have raised \$3.5k. FABB advocated early for Fairfax County to create a Bike Coordinator position, which since 2006 has been held by TOVBAC committee member Charlie Strunk. FABB’s primary goal is developing bike plans, and wants to involve Vienna. The Tysons Plan draft is finished and will be presented at a public information meeting on February 17th at Kilmer Intermediate, similar to a meeting held there last year. The county plan will follow. FABB is interested in bike-to-school efforts, has met with the Fairfax supervisors to ask for support for groups trying to implement, and meets again February 1st with them to ask for area-wide applications covering several schools, with the support of the Fairfax school board. FABB provides bike education as well, encouraging safe behavior, and is asking Fairfax to reinstate it in the school program. A grant enabled FABB to develop and

- print a 2010 Guide for Reviewing Public Road Design and Bicycling Accommodations for Virginia Bicycling Advocates, <http://www.fabb-bikes.org/guide/>. Copies distributed to each BAC member. The guide was published last summer, and 500 copies were distributed throughout the state. It is quite specific in covering design of roads and important tips on being involved in bike accommodations early in that process. The 28-page Guide demystifies the process of getting bike lanes, etc. on paper early to eliminate the fuss of coming in late. The process's basic stages, and what advocates can do at each stage, are distilled especially well on pp. 4-5. Advocates must be aware of late changes in plans to be effective. The Guide provides detail as well, covering types of bike improvements, standards, lane widths, etc. Many roads don't need bike lanes. Much advice embedded in the Guide comes from officials. Advocates must pay particular attention to the value of public meetings, and be tuned into and respect the concerns of adjoining property owners. The committee thanked Bruce and Fionnuala, who answered a few brief questions.
3. Safe Routes to School grant – Sharon to update. Drew gave an update in Sharon's absence. The BAC is volunteering Sharon, and Dave S, to approach 2 or 3 Vienna schools. The grant work is done, and about 200 signatures have been obtained. Now they are involved with getting funding, obtaining maps, etc. Sean McCall is leading the effort for Vienna Elementary, has done the Travel Plan, and is obtaining maps now. Sean mentions that he is trying to obtain money for sidewalks in the 2011 funding cycle as well. Bike rodeos and walk/bike-to-school-day challenges are envisioned to increase awareness and support.
 4. Courthouse Rd – "Bike Route" changes. Drew. In January, The Transportation Safety Committee unanimously approved the proposed plan for a bike lane from Nutley to Locust along Courthouse Road. Complications have surfaced since then however, since on closer inspection the road bed widths do not allow for painted bike lanes. Therefore, a signed bike "route," with a paved shoulder (see the Guide, p. 14) is envisioned. TSC Comments: Steve Kenney suggests the BAC consider/discuss directional signs, and their placement, along the route and down Courthouse to the town line, roughly at the dog park.
 5. Unsafe Biking on W&OD update. Dave provided a packet, including letters from councilman Cole and town manager Schoeberlein, and the BAC needs to respond. BAC will work with the Town and W&OD park manager to improve/place signs, and Dave will draft a letter and provide photos of signage examples.
 6. Village Green Property – Bike Rack(s) – Bob to update. Drew refreshed everyone on why we are interested in this...to improve the town infrastructure and provide bike travelers who frequent or work at town businesses a safe and convenient way to secure their bikes. Village Green was suggested as a good place to start. Bob spoke with the property manager, and there is interest. He hopes to meet on site soon with the property manager, someone from town planning and zoning, and Charlie Strunk to discuss location, types of racks, and any installation or zoning considerations.
 7. New Action items/ discussion. Drew covered two items: Distributed an email from Craig Burns dealing with Virginia's House committee work passing bike lanes of 2-3 feet. The BAC letter of introduction to jurisdictions and interested groups will be mailed before the next meeting. (a) New BAC chairman: Steve Kenney is stepping down as TSC chair next month

and Drew will move from TSC vice-chair to TSC chair. TSC member and current BAC-vice chair Walt Basnight is moving to serve on the Planning Commission. BAC secretary Jeff Palmer is giving up that post. Drew therefore nominated Bob McCahill to serve as secretary, and Bob accepted. Drew invited volunteers for BAC chair. None volunteered, so it was decided that Drew and Bob would for now serve as BAC co-chairs.

8. Adjourn. Next Meeting - Thursday, Feb 17th 2011, 8pm.

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