

Approved MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMISSION
Northbrook Village Hall – Terrace Conference Room
8/30/2023

Members Present: Angus Duthie, Kathy Hofschield, Jim O’Connell, Michael Pfeifer, and Tom Tebbe

Members Absent: A.C. Buehler, and Frank Bleeker

Staff Present: Jim Baxa (NBK), Kris Scharp (NBK Park District)

Staff Absent: N/A

Others Present: Susan Schueler, Northbrook Resident

Pedestrian & Bicycle Commission Meeting – Call Meeting to Order

Angus Duthie called the Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission (PBC) meeting to order at the Terrace Conference Room at 7:03 p.m.

Review of May 10, 2023 Pedestrian & Bicycle Commission Meeting Minutes

A motion made by member Tebbe and seconded by member Duthie the May 10, 2023 minutes be approved with no corrections. The motion was unanimously approved.

Public Comments

Northbrook resident Susan Schuler, 2040 Walters Avenue; is attending as a follow up to meeting with staff to discuss the three options presented for the Walters Avenue Corridor Bicycle Improvement. She appeared at the open house held in April, and is opposed to Option 2 being selected by the PBC to move forward with this project. Ms. Schuler, stated she is preparing an informational flyer for the 120 residents who live along Walters Avenue, she believes the information posted on the village’s website, and the mailed open house meeting notice by staff was not enough outreach for the residents.

Staff provided more information on the background of the project, which identifies Walters Avenue Corridor Bicycle Improvement in the Master Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan as a higher priority project to be included when proposed street paving improvements are being planned.

In addition, staff detailed village outreach methods that included mailing over 600 letters to the residents who reside on and near the proposed project improvements, providing all three options being considered for this corridor on the Village’s website with a notice of the meeting, and the opportunity of submitting comments if attending the meeting was not a possibility. Staff also relayed the PBC recommendation is on the pre-liminary concept design and not final approval of the project.

Review/Approval of final draft Memo for the Walters Avenue Corridor Improvements

Staff inquired that prior to making a recommendation on the pre-liminary concept plan identified as Option 2 if the commission had any questions or if there were any additional comments on the final draft memo for the Walters Avenue Corridor Improvements. Member Hofschield expressed that from the beginning of this process the PBC expressed their concerns regarding the removal of trees along Walters Avenue. Staff explained that if the project moves forward to Phase I engineering design it is required to hold a minimum of two open house events in the future for public input on this design.

These meeting will provide additional opportunity for public comment. Member Pfeifer made a motion to accept the memorandum, member O'Connell seconded; the motion passes with none opposed.

Northbrook Grand Prix Post Race Discussion

Jim O'Connell provided updates on the Northbrook Grand Prix, the Local Organizational Committee (LOC) is moving forward with securing additional sponsorships, and will try a different creative approach with attracting title sponsors. Jim mentioned that the costs for sponsoring the race his increased from the previous year. He also mentioned that the collaboration between the village and the LOC is much better than the previous year. Member Hofschield stated the LOC received the latest survey results from the race attendees and indicated the overall feedback was very positive.

New/Old Business

Staff also reminded the PBC there still remain the vacancy as Commission Chair, shared some of the limited duties involved, if there is any interest for the position, please contact the Village President. Member Pfeifer expressed his interests with accepting the role for the commission.

Potential future meeting topics to include; E-bike and electric scooter use on public sidewalks.

Adjourn:

A motion was made by member Tebbe and seconded by member O'Connell to adjourn the meeting of the PBC; the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at **8:13 p.m.**