

Report
BPAC Meeting
November 19, 2015

The Bicycle and Pedestrian on November 19, 2015 at the Clark County Health Department Office, 400 Professional Ave, Winchester, Kentucky at 10:00AM. Those in attendance were:

Attendees:

Mr. Stephen M. Berry, GISP, Clark County GIS, Walk-Bike Clark County

Ms. Olivia Whitman, Clark County Health Department

Ms. Linda Barrett, Citizen

Ms. Clare Sipple, Bluegrass Trails and Greenways

Ms. Cora Heffner, Clark County Community Education & Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Beth Willett Jones, Greater Clark Foundation

SESSION CONTENT:

Stephen Berry reviewed recent activity of the BPAC members. He stated that BPAC members had attended a BPAC Meetup at Engine House Deli on November 12. He stated that BPAC members had attended the Bluegrass Trails Alliance Workshop in Jessamine County on November 13. He stated that BPAC members had set up a table at the Better Block Winchester event on November 14. He stated that BPAC members had given a presentation to the Rotary Club at their November 13 Meeting.

Mr. Berry stated that the Clark County BPAC has been awarded a grant from the Kentucky Department of Public Health and Transportation Cabinet to produce a Walk-Bike Transportation Plan. He stated that training for this grant would be held on December 2, 2015 in Frankfort. He encouraged everyone who wished to attend to please RSVP by next Monday. Mr. Berry also stated that Planning Communities of Raleigh, NC has offered to perform Pro-Bono work for the Walk-Bike Transportation Plan. He also stated the December 2015 BPAC meeting will be dedicated to the Walk-Bike Plan.

Mr. Berry stated that he would be presenting to the Clark County Fiscal Court, the Winchester City Commission, and the Clark County School Board on the Walk-Bike Plan. He stated that Cora Heffner had arranged the School Board presentation. He stated that BPAC will also give presentations to Winchester-Clark County Planning Commission, and the Winchester-Clark County Association of Churches in December 2015 and January 2016, respectively. The group identified other groups to recruit for assistance and support for the Walk-Bike Plan. These groups include the Winchester-Clark County Chamber of Commerce Board, Winchester-Clark County Tourism Board, Winchester-Clark County Industrial Authority, Main Street Winchester, Kiwanis Club, and the Parks and Recreation Board.

Ms. Jones gave a report on the Bluegrass Trails Alliance Workshop on November 13, 2015. She stated that the workshop included participants from Clark, Fayette, Jessamine, Garrard, Mercer, Madison, and Estill Counties. She stated that regional trail opportunities were discussed. She stated that some of the

opportunities identified for Clark County included Lewis and Clark Trail, Warrior Path, abandoned rail bed, U.S. 60 corridor between Lexington and Winchester, connections to the Fayette Legacy Trail, the Kentucky River Water Trail, and the Salt Trace trail from Boonesboro to Blue Licks. Ms. Jones also stated that Winchester and Clark County might consider applying for technical assistance from the National Parks Service in August of 2016.

Mr. Berry presented a draft version of the "Planning/Outreach Approach" from Planning Communities. He stated that this document was to be reviewed and corrected for errors and additions. He stated that Teresa Townsend and Ann Steedly of Planning Communities created this document and that it would be finalized before next month's BPAC Meeting. Mr. Berry also presented the message from Planning Communities that states the services that they are willing to provide the BPAC for the Walk-Bike Plan. These services include facilitate stakeholder meeting, review community survey and inventory methods, web and social media recommendations, and technical plan support.

Mr. Berry stated that he envisioned one large community meeting for the kickoff of the plan, perhaps facilitated by Planning Communities. He stated that there could be additional community meetings that allow input from different parts of Clark County. Ms. Sipple stated that the Southwest Clark Neighborhood Association would be willing to host one of these community meetings. She also stated that there is a Thomson Subdivision Neighborhood Association that might host a walk-bike meeting focused on the downtown Winchester area.

Mr. Berry stated that the BPAC will not only be examining stakeholders for the Walk-Bike Plan, but also consider user-groups, as well. He stated that these groups have been identified as Sport Cycling, Pedestrian Transportation (and Safe Routes to School), Wellness, Equestrian, Walk-Bike Recreation, and Waterways. He stated that each member or volunteer would be asked to join one or more of these user groups to help facilitate outreach and collect wants and needs from these communities.

Action Items:

Mr. Berry stated that he would reach out to The Trust for Public Land to see if they could help facilitate land acquisition along the abandoned Rail-Trail Corridor.

Ms. Jones stated that she would plan to lead "slow ride" events on a weekly basis, starting in the spring of 2016.

Ms. Heffner stated that the Community Education catalog would be published in February 2015. Ms. Jones suggested that BPAC take out a full-page ad to market the group to the community.

Ms. Sipple stated that she would reach out to the horse-riding community to help develop rail-trail projects.

Everyone is encouraged to review the "Planning/Outreach Approach" document and help fill in the gaps in preparation for the December BPAC meeting.

Ideas from Meeting:

Identify areas of the abandoned Rail bed to host a "Build a Better Trail" event. Mr. Berry and Ms. Barrett will investigate the resources needed to host a temporary linear park installation along part of the abandoned rail bed.