

Bike! Walk! Northwest Georgia
June 4, 2009
Minutes

Attending: Bill Moll, Joe Anderson, David Kenemer, Dean Clemmer, Fred Wagner, Julie Meadows, Frank Bibb, David Baird, Gail Priest, Charles Jones, John Johnston, Joe Anderson, Sheri Henshaw, Judson Alward, Sharon Foxworthy, Stan Foxworthy

Clean Air Campaign - Sharon Foxworthy

- The clean air campaign is being expanded from the Atlanta metro area to include NW Georgia
- Efforts around Rome have concentrated on partnerships with companies to promote ride-sharing and alternative transportation
- There are financial incentives to reduce single-passenger private car/truck commuting; miles are logged on logyourcommute.com
- Tie-ins with SRTS include the zero-idling program for vehicles queued at school for student pickups
- More information can be found on www.cleanaircampaign.org

Merger with North Georgia RDC – David Kenemer

- The merger has occurred and integration is taking place
- The emphasis of the two bike-ped programs were different and the intention is to combine the two approaches
- David will develop the changes required in the By-laws to vote on in September

North Georgia RDC Bike-Ped Activities – Bradley Kotrba

- Due to the geographical stretch of the counties and an intervening mountain, activities were county-based
- Each county has a designated bike route network
- Bike-ped plans have been created for five of the cities
- Dalton/Whitfield is scheduled for a bike-ped plan for FY2010

GDOT Contracts – David Kenemer

- "Bike Sense" will be printed by the NW Georgia Regional Commission under contract from GDOT
- The process for merging the two contracts is unknown at this time

Meeting Dates and Location

- After some discussion centering on the enormous expanse of the NWGRC, it was decided to have quarterly combined meetings and two meetings the other months, starting in October
 - The first quarterly meeting will be October; other quarterly meetings would be January, April and August
 - Two meetings would be held in November, February, March, May, June and September (there are no meetings in July and December)
 - The quarterly meeting would have a special program to motivate people to travel to the meeting
 - Tentatively, the two monthly meetings would be in Rome (second Thursday) and Dalton (first Thursday), although there was some continuing discussion
- Members may attend whichever meetings they wish

SRTS update

- The first state SRTS advisory meeting was held in Atlanta
- There was extensive dissatisfaction with the way that GDOT had proceeded and skepticism about the future (the state SRTS coordinator has resigned)
- Sarah Knight, the URS SRTS Resource Center project manager, gave a presentation and answered questions

- Alicia Hatcher, from Calhoun, will be the resource person for the NWGRC and a couple adjacent ARC counties

Website Updates

- The website has been partially updated, but progress is unsatisfactory
- The SRTS material has still not been added

Bike Route Network

- The contract with Andy Carroll is moving forward
- The routes for the two RDC networks will be merged into a single NWGRC bike network

Lyerly/Simms Mountain Trail Update

- It would appear that there can be a continuous Pinhoti trail from Dalton down to the Alabama Pinhoti (with a little good fortune)
- Money for rehab of the rail line for rail-banking was added this past legislative session, with the addition of a trail as first priority

Other Business

- Chattanooga MPO is updating their bike plan and has had little input from Georgia
- Pro Walk Pro Bike will be in Chattanooga in September 2010; BWNWGA has been asked to help

Meeting was adjourned

Next meeting: September 10, 2009, in Dalton

Changed to September 9