

Bike Walk NW GA Meeting

January 26, 2012

ECO Center, Rome, Georgia

1. Introductions: Sammy Rich, Peter Cervelli, Bill Moll, David Kenemer, Tonya Brown, Catherine Edgemon, Ron Underwood, Julie Smith, Tim Jones, Alicia Hatcher, Philip Pugliese

David said that Julie Smith will be working with BWNWGA on a contract basis 15-20 hours/week. Bill said he will send Julie administrative information on members contact info for her usage.

2. David told the group that Tonya, Janet Cochran (not in attendance) and Julie are working on the BWNWGA brochure. It will be a 5-fold and an example brochure was shown. Discussion on printer and cost (David did not remember what the cost of brochure is due to time lapse in bid). Explained panels on front/back and BWNWGA cycling/ped map on inside. Brochure will be distributed to CVB's in 15 county area, not going to highway rest areas. Bill suggested placing some in Chattanooga. Brochure will be in PDF format. Julie highlighted features of brochure. Need trails in Gordon CO, if anyone has any info as every county needs to be represented. Discussion on including or not including bike shops in Chattanooga in brochure. Not to be included. If corrections/edits on trails/cycling/etc. for brochure, sent to Tonya or Julie. MTN Bike trails have to go from point a to point b. Julie said that anything that happens in the community (Relay for Life, March of Dimes, etc...) charity event needs to go on the website too. Brochure/website need to mirror each other in look.

3. Walking lunches/brochures: David said that one of his goals is to market the walking lunches/brochures to other communities. \$15000 for brochures in budget, Peter mentioned his walking lunch in Trenton in the past. Julie will work on marketing walking lunches around the region. Rome has had great success with over 200 people and does a great job of inviting city of Rome employees to participate in the spring. David asked Tim about walking lunch in Bartow Co. and if Bartow/Cartersville could generate interest. Lafayette wants to do one and Rome as well. David said that we could match monies for walking lunch. Catherine wants to know if eligible for funding if put on website with podcasting/geocaching and David said yes. Catherine explained podcasting about a certain site. Catherine to provide more details at next meeting. Also put info on website too. Catherine wants to know if anyone knows someone to do podcasting. Sammy mentioned the ROME CVB communications director, Chris Cannon.

4. SRTS/Willy Weir: Alicia emailed Willy and he has dates available in March/April. He has been to schools to present SRTS and Alicia coordinate schools that haven't had him yet and get dates set. David told the groups that Willy does a 25 minute presentation to kids about biking and bike safety.

Dalton Crossing Guard training is in February and approval has been received for a stipend for two people per school. David is talking to Carol Willis who wrote the guide for NC/FL crossing guard training and another woman in Dekalb Co. GA who did training and both are coming together for training. Exact date TBD. Alicia will talk to David about providing lunches to trainees. Dalton training

has been two years in making and David is happy have it progress. David wants a general head count and then open it up to other counties for training. This is hopefully a pilot project if it goes well.

5. Spring Workshop: Bill said that the spring workshop is to fill two days between the LCI and TN Bike summit, on May 2. Bill and Peter are looking at emphasizing how to go into existing infrastructure and make it palatable for walking. They are hoping to reach out to Disability Link NW and get non-profit groups that have money about working with towns to get sidewalk improvements in towns. There was discussion about this issue and the problem areas in towns for handicapped people, etc...How can you build new sidewalks with minimum impact/funding? Bridging sidewalk gaps. Bill mentioned it would be nice to have legal counsel for legal requirements too. Julie to give Bill Disability Link contact info for opinions. Needs: Civil engineer, foundations/funding, aging group who knows about funding sources, wheelchair bound person, city government people, GDOT rep, and others who have vested interest in solving problem. Sammy brought up that going back to 2005, Rome did a massive sidewalk analysis and was working toward repairing them. The issue is the money to replace the sidewalks and the redlight cameras funded the sidewalks. Thus, the issue is the lack of money to repair sidewalks. Rome gets liability claims each week. Bill said that he wants to raise this to a level to someone that will provide money to fix it.

6. TN Bike Summit: Phillip told the group that Chattanooga is hosting the lead cycling seminar, April 27-29, for people to become certified instructors in cycling education. www.bikeleague.org \$200 for LCI seminar. May 2-4 First TN state bike summit. (8-5pm) The conference is designed on modular basis if people can't attend entire weekend. Phillip detailed schedule. David mentioned that recent accident in ATL happened with cyclist and cop and didn't know that 3-foot law had passed. Something that needs to be put out to people to raise more awareness of the new law.

7. Regional Bike/Ped Update: March 22 at the Calhoun Depot and it will not be a general meeting. David is going through the previous plan and identifying needs from the 15 county region and the goals and objectives. David to compare goals and what has been accomplished over last 6 years from 2005. Invite people to come up with new set of goals. Peter asked if any value to invite people from state level. Bill, thinks that we don't need to come up with final solution to turn off people. How we structure meeting is key to receive input. David said that the difference was that then we have nothing and now we have something to evaluate and work from new set of goals/obj. Bill to provide Julie with email list for mass marketing. Peter suggested structuring the meeting with a clear deliniation of biking/peds to focus on plan.

8. Other Business: 2012 Benchmarking Report, cited stats. Bill said that the relevant part of the stats is that the transportation bill has been on the docket but voted on a continuation but want to eliminate funding for ped/cycling projects. Being voted on and so talk to rep about passing funding.

9. Adjourn

No meeting date was set for February. David to follow up with members.

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