

Active Mobility Commission Minutes

October 17th, 2023

I. Call to Order

Julie White called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

II. Quorum

Members Present: Kyle Cole, Julie White, Julia Weatherford, Michelle Knight, Kristie Bergna

Members Absent: Lisa Raleigh

Staff Present: Russell Cate, Jennifer Tipton

III. Public Comment

Public Comment will also be permitted after each discussion

IV. Agenda - review and modify

The agenda was reviewed, amended, and adopted.

V. Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the August meeting were adopted by consensus.

VI. Old Business

a. Commission Ordinance

Submitted changes were adopted by Council. Julie White will be working to ensure that a procedure is in place for new projects to be brought to the Commission.

b. Review of Requests from Commission to Council

Parks and Recreation will be working on the trail program, Commission is not necessary for this. Ventures Trail bridge will be added to the greenway master plan after the feasibility study is complete. Sidewalks are still needed at Dougherty Street past the library, on Laurel Avenue from the golf course to the pool and the lower parking lot to the pool, and on Tomahawk Street from Craigmont Road to 9th Street. DOT does not want to remove debris from the barrels at the I40 overpass at the Oaks Trail. Julie will work with Josh to look at a plan to get volunteers to paint the tunnel white. Maintenance issues regarding silt and gravel at Lake Tomahawk are in progress with Anne Phillips, town stormwater technician, leading the charge on creating rain gardens and bio retention areas. New trail at Craigmont tennis courts has metal sticking up, Parks and Recreation have plans for paving this area. Vance Avenue sidewalk degradation issues have not been addressed yet. Sidewalk transition at Village Way is complete. Flat Creek greenway continues to have issues with roots pushing asphalt up on the path.

- c. Report to the Council for the coming year

New budget items need to be presented to the Council by February. Commission will look at getting onto the new Town Clerk's schedule in January to review yearly report. Discussion was held regarding asking for fewer new items with a notation that the new process in place will allow for the Commission to bring agenda items to the Council throughout the year. New items the Commission is looking at include: trail system maintenance budget and engineering for Ventures Trail bridge behind old BiLo over the Swannanoa River. Julia will research trail system maintenance budgets used by similar locations to come up with a reasonable annual maintenance budget proposal. The Ventures Trail bridge was asked for in last year's request, however the Council asked that this be rolled into the feasibility study which is currently in the RFQ stage. Michelle wants the Commission to discuss being looped into the proposed Montreat College development by the Oaks Trail. All Commission members are asked to look at the ideas discussed in this meeting and bring new ideas to the November meeting.

VII. New Business

- a. Black Mountain Greenway Valentine Run

Scheduled for February 10th and the Greenway Commission is looking for volunteers. Event is predicted to be larger than in years past.

VIII. Discussion

None.

IX. Adjournment

Julie adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm.