

BIKEWAYS AND WALKWAYS COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes – April 9, 2019 at 12:00 PM
Courtyard Conference Room

Member Attendance:

Paul Hart (Chair)
Dana Christensen (Co-Vice Chair)
Lesley Orr (Co-Vice Chair)
Mark Collier
Chip Dennerlein - Late
Daniel Edwards
Cliff Kuhlman
Bob Lange
Brett Rasmussen - Absent
Keith Yoho

City/Staff/Council Liaisons:

Tyler Flaming – City Council
Valerie Lovelace – City Council
Aaron Cubic – City Manager
Wade Elliott – Assistant Public Works Director

Guests/visitors:

Citizens:
Brian Hawkins
Shaun Hall, Daily Courier

1. **Roll Call:**
 - Chair Hart opened the meeting and took roll. Chip Dennerlein and Brett Rasmussen were noted as absent.
2. **Items from Public:** For items not on the agenda.
 - Brian Hawkins mentioned he was excited Public Works installed bike racks in Merlin.
3. **Consent Agenda:**
 - Minutes: March 12, 2019

MOTION/VOTE

Co-Vice Chair Orr moved and Member Yoho seconded the motion to approve the minutes from March 12, 2019 as presented. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Hart, Christensen, Collier, Edwards, Kuhlman, Lange, Orr, and Yoho “NAYS”: None. Abstain: None. Absent for vote: Dennerlein and Rasmussen
The motion passed.

4. Matters from Committee Members and Staff:

- a. Dollar Mountain - Councilor Flaming spoke about Dollar Mountain. June 1 is the trail work day, which is also National Trail Work Day. SOTA is spearheading this effort. They will work on the Crescent Drive access up to the tower. RVMBA was to send flyers to Tyler for the celebration of the Dollar Mountain purchase that will take place on April 17 from 6-9 pm at Weekend Brewing. There will be a \$2 donation for every pint purchased will go to RVMBA. Member Yoho added there will be a trail work day on the 20th for Earth Day at Taylor Creek.

Member Dennerlein joined the meeting.

Member Lange stated the City of Medford may attend the next Bikeways meeting in May. He passed out a brochure for Roxy Ann Mountain and Prescott Park. He feels they need to develop the Master Plan and there are several grants available for design. He offered his services as a volunteer. He recommends they put in for a new trail right away (from Dollar Mountain parking lot down to the County land) if the City feels the timing is good. It could be a good beginning trail.

- b. June 1 volunteer trail day. The plan is currently to have work done on the existing trail. There are two switchbacks on City land; one needs quite a bit of vegetation

removal. They would like to have a better-defined ending for the trail with signage that could help eliminated everyone ending at the cell tower. They further discussed some of the trail issues that will require more work that can be done on the volunteer day and trails that would be close to or around Mr. Maffett's property. The Maffett property starts about half way up the trail.

Member Dennerlein asked about the mention of Dollar Mountain in any master plan and wondered if there are any grant constraints? Mr. Hawkins talked about grants that he has gotten that specifically mentioned they cannot be used for comprehensive planning or restricted to communities of about \$10,000 people. He would like to see Josephine County involved in the process since they own a piece up there as well. They mentioned talking to Commissioner Fowler.

A citizen asked about the cell tower and anti-climb hardware. He was told the tower is fenced and signed, however, it is easy to get there and access the tower. The cell carrier would probably appreciate knowing what is going on with the tower as well.

- c. Merlin Railroad – Co-Vice Chair Orr mentioned that Rob Brandes was going to speak with Jenna Marmon to see if progress was made with ODOT regarding construction for the alternative route for bikes. Member Dennerlein is willing to make contact with Rob to follow up. They are trying to educate the ODOT person as to the issues with travel of the bike in relationship to the angle of the track.
- d. Beacon Hill – There is no update currently.
- e. Merlin Parade/Bike event – May 4th is the parade. Co-Vice Chair Orr updated about getting vendors to set up in the park after the parade. She asked if there were any kids that have signed up to ride in the parade yet? She would like to see if the Rogue River Greenway Foundation would like to set up a table in the park to promote bicycling and Ride the Rogue. Mr. Hawkins offered to make a poster to display with some bullet points of things this committee has been working on for Merlin. Bike racks are going in right now. Member Dennerlein mentioned getting one of the large-scale maps to show the bike routes that go through Merlin/Hugo and the Lower River/Azalea routes.
- f. Chair Hart talked about the issue of termination of one of the members that doesn't regularly attend. The committee can make recommendation of termination after three unexcused absences. An unexcused absence is if the member doesn't contact the Chair to say they will not be in attendance. This committee would like to ask the City to remove this individual to open the position for someone else. Co-Vice Chair Orr will contact him the member to see if they wish to resign. He also addressed the issue of members that may be representing the group on their own. Comments and opinions need to be shared by the group. There may be a time when there may be some conflicts with members that serve on more than one committee, so members may need to abstain from the conversation/vote. Members, as a committee, should agree on, and have a consensus, what is being discussed and decided on in this committee. They discussed if they feel they have been heard. Member Dennerlein feels they have not been heard on everything as clearly. Chair Hart urged members to be careful before representing the committee rather than as a private citizen.
- g. Allen Creek Road. Wade Elliott asked if this item could be postponed until a future meeting. The jurisdictional exchange has to happen first.
- h. Member Lange mentioned applauding the City for taking on the River Road Reserve and appreciates the Mayor and Council leadership for the community. In addition, for the Allen Creek road project, he wanted to add emphasis to the

importance of bike lanes which would be an important part of the project in terms of funding and land acquisition. Perhaps it could be discussed at a future meeting.

- i. River Road Reserve. Chair Hart mentioned he understands there is a new committee. Councilor Lovelace interjected that it is a PAVE committee (Performance Audit Visioning and Enhancement) that has been put in place to look at all the available City owned properties. Wade Elliott suggested discussion at the next meeting about what PAVE members are looking at. Member Dennerlein mentioned how the River Road Reserve could be a huge link in recreation and tourism. He would like to see Jason Canady come to a meeting to talk about cooling ponds. For Allen Creek, he wants to keep focus to pedestrian and bike components.

They would like to add Allen Creek Road to the next agenda.

MOTION/VOTE

Member Edwards moved and Member Dennerlein seconded the motion to place the River Road Reserve topic on the next agenda. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Hart, Christensen, Collier, Dennerlein, Edwards, Kuhlman, Lange, Orr, and Yoho
“NAYS”: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent for vote:** Rasmussen
The motion passed.

- j. Member Dennerlein talked about the format of the agenda. He explained that he talked to a few former municipal colleagues and noted that the public gets to comment about things that aren't on the agenda. Chair Hart noted the agenda as written does not include the opportunity for the public's comments on action items. Member Dennerlein stated his issue is that the agenda does not have written information on the process.
- k. Member Collier referenced back to the Dollar Mountain discussion about the Maffett property and that he is concerned that the easement is not going to carry on to the sale of the property. He sees a liability issue with taking a trail where the owner may let you through, but it doesn't carry on. He feels someone needs to explore the possibility of gaining the private and BLM properties as part of the plan. Brian Hawkins explained that the existing trail goes through there and work is being done on that. He recommends that for new trails, situations like that should be avoided. Discussion continued as to avoid private property and using the 440 acres that they do have, fire abatement, liability and having a legal agreement.

They would like to add Allen Creek Road to the next agenda.

MOTION/VOTE

Member Collier moved and Co-Vice Chair Orr seconded the motion to place the Allen Creek Road on the next agenda. The vote resulted as follows: “AYES”: Hart, Christensen, Collier, Dennerlein, Edwards, Kuhlman, Lange, Orr, and Yoho
“NAYS”: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent for vote:** Rasmussen
The motion passed.

5. Future Agenda Building for Next Meeting

- a. River Road Reserve
- b. Allen Creek Road

6. Adjournment

MOTION/VOTE

**Member Collier moved and Chair Hart seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The vote resulted as follows: "AYES": Hart, Christensen, Collier, Dennerlein, Edwards, Kuhlman, Lange, Orr, and Yoho "NAYS": None. Abstain: None. Absent for vote: Rasmussen
The motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

Next meeting date: May 14, 2019 at 12:00 pm in the Courtyard Conference Room

Minutes prepared by Donna Anderson, City Administration.