

Morgantown Pedestrian Safety Council Meeting Minutes
 Public Safety Building- Morgantown, WV
 Monday, January 11, 2010
 4:00-5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order: Chair Christiaan Abildso called the May meeting of the Pedestrian Safety Board to order at 4:04 pm.
- II. Attendance Check: Christiaan Abildso, Bill Reger-Nash, Jimmie Simmons, Dwight Harshbarger, Ilani Chertok, Jon Bond, George Lilley, Don Spencer, Matthew Cross, Hugh Kierig, Mike Breiding, Don Spencer, Jon Mittenberger, Jennifer Noori, Nick Hein.
- III. Board membership verification: NA
- IV. Review of December meeting minutes/unfinished business

Action Item	Member	Due date
Sidewalk barriers: Observe on sidewalk parking and other ped abuses. Call non-emergency 304-599-6382 to report --- STAY VIGILANT!!! <i>Mike Breiding, Christiaan and others reported making calls. The Police Department has responded professionally. Bill will approach The Dominion Post about Q&A column about complaints.</i> Column to be authored by Jimmie Simmons (and BRN).	All	On going
Attend Traffic Commission meeting to update them on the Plan and discuss sidewalk parking issues, above. <i>Christiaan will attend.</i>	Christiaan	January 13 th
Email one page of talking points about the Plan to entire Board, for use in action items, below	Christiaan	this week
Solicit coworkers, friends, and other voices of support for the Plan to send email to Dominion Post, all city council members, and the mayor. <i>Christiaan promised to send list of contact information.</i>	ALL	Ongoing
Contact the following groups to meet with them in January and/or solicit letters of support for Plan to be sent to The Dominion Post opinion page, all City Council members, the Mayor, and copied to walkmgw@yahoo.com (see below for contact information)		This week
Woodburn Neighborhood Association	Bill	
Woodburn ES principal. <i>Did not do.</i>	Bill	
SPAN, Greenmont NA, & Jerome Park NA	Christiaan	Emailed all 3
South Hills NA (or email list)	Dave	
Suncrest NA	Matthew	
Suncrest Primary and MS, and North ES – principals & PTA	Matthew	
Evansdale	Hugh	
Wiles Hill NA	Jimmie	
First Ward – talk to Ron Bane	Christiaan	Not done
Neighborhood near old UHS	Christiaan	Not done
New Cheat Lake Middle (old UHS)	Christiaan	Not done
Jon Bond @ WVU SGA, faculty senate, Daily Athenaeum. <i>Jon and</i>	Hugh	

<i>Hugh indicated they will continue to work with these resources.</i>		
Rotary	George	Feb 4 mtg
Board of Realtors	Christiaan	Emailed
Rental property owners. <i>Bill will follow up on this.</i>	Bill & Christiaan	
Contact Youth Commission chairperson & MHS principal DeSantis. <i>Jon reported that Mr. DeSantis was not concerned about cars being parked on the sidewalks near MHS. Said that people are ticketed haphazardly. Matt Cross indicated that principals of Suncrest Elementary and Middle support improved walkability. Principal of North seemed to be open to supporting the Pedestrian Safety Issues.</i>	Alex, Jon, & Britta	Done
TO DO: attend 1 or more upcoming City Council budget meetings (see Item V, below)	At least 5 people	Jan 26 Feb 16 Mar 16
TO DO: attend forum about Plan & fee hosted by the Dominion Post, date/time still to be determined, likely the evening of January 28th	ALL	

V. Enacting the Pedestrian Safety Plan – Lively discussion. Name of fee is an issue, ie needs to be descriptive. One Dollar to improve Morgantown Public Walkways, Walkway lighting, and Traffic calming. Dan Boroff wants to pass the funding mechanism for the plan prior to City Council passing an unfunded Pedestrian Safety Plan. *Each City Council member will discuss budget priorities City Council Meeting-of-the-Whole on Jan 26. Discussion of budget changes and edits will be City Council meeting on Feb 16. The vote on the budget and the Dollar Sidewalks should occur on Tuesday March 16. We should have at least 5 people attend these meetings, which begin at 7 pm. (DATES REVISED FROM WHAT WAS DISCUSSED DURING & IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE MEETING). The Dominion Post will host a forum to discuss the Plan & fee...likely to be the evening of Thursday, Jan 28. ***We need a good turnout and vocal support at this forum.*

Since sidewalks significantly impact people with a disability, it was suggested to ask people with disabilities to speak at the Meeting of the Whole and at the February 16 Budget Hearing. Danny Hobbs might be a good spokesperson since he pushes his wife around Morgantown. Maria Smith will send out the contact information about the Council on Disabilities, Center for Excellence for Disabilities.

Jimmie indicated that we need to emphasize the benefits of the plan. See above for more detail. Nick Hein volunteered to use Positive Spin to promote the benefits of the plan. Every member of the Pedestrian Safety Board should personally contact two members of city council encouraging them to adopt the funding mechanism for the plan.

Of 11,500 properties in Morgantown, 8,000 are owned by landlords. These are few actual votes but loud voices. *Members are encouraged to speak with developers/landlords about supporting the Pedestrian Safety Plan.*

VI. Marketing Presentation - Maria Smith presented a nice power point presentation for chatting with groups and others. See accompanying file.

VII. Shoveling sidewalks...email to DP opinion page Long discussion about snow and ice removal barriers on sidewalks. Christiaan pointed out that the Pedestrian Safety Plan reiterated the responsibility of individual property owners. WVU seems to be doing a good job of cleaning ice and snow. Jimmie Simmons recommended establishing a seasonal sidewalk maintenance calendar as part of the Ped Safety

Plan, eg leaves on fall, snow in winter. **Christiaan to alert DP about the need keep snow and ice off sidewalks.**

VIII. Everyone is encouraged to sign the online petition in support of the Pedestrian Safety Plan. There are two options to sign in support. Go to (1) <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/mgwpedplan/> ; (2) Go to ipetitions.com and type in Morgantown. We need to get this out and have it be representative of the support we have. Send to email lists.

IX. Set Time & Date of the Next Pedestrian Safety Board Meeting
***Monday, February 8th, 4-5:30 pm at the Public Safety Building

X. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.