

Morgantown Pedestrian Safety Board Meeting Agenda
Public Safety Building- Morgantown, WV
Monday, April 5, 2010, 4:30-6:00pm

I. Call To Order by chair Abildso at 4:35 PM

II. Attendance Check and board member verification

Attendees: Bill Reger-Nash, Jon Bond, Christiaan Abildso, Jimmie Simmons, Don Spencer, Hugh Kierig, Dan Boroff, Dwight Harshbarger, Bob Anderson, Nick Hein, Stan Cohen, Mike Breiding, George Lilley, Martha Summers, Sarah Bias
Guests: Xavier Bias, MPO President Bill Austin

III. Discussion of city code enforcement – guest: Dan Boroff, City Manager

- **(DB)** All new developments and construction are required to have sidewalks. Existing properties (50 years or more) are under the law as well
 - o However, only 2-3 times a year individuals are asked to fix their sidewalks. Warnings and citations are complaint driven
 - o If the property owner would be building a ‘sidewalk to nowhere’ (ie, no sidewalk on properties to the left and right) the City may issue a waiver, but the waiver can be revoked at any time in the future
 - o Sidewalk issues are defined in terms of gateways to Morgantown, safety, and new development
- **(DS)** Created a comparison of 2 ways of looking at sidewalks
 - o Generally recognized that there no ‘workable ordinance in the books’, that is the current mandate to individual property owners is unworkable because of income of individual property owners
 - o We need to move toward a community-based system
- **(CA)** New community based model vs. enforcing current code/laws
- **(DB)** There is no ‘political will’ for the plan, no public support for enforcement
 - o We are not the only community with these issues
- **(Sarah)** There is a growing pedestrian atmosphere
 - o Can we do a media campaign about pedestrian issues?
 - o Individuals seem to be behind projects that you have to drive to
- **(BRN)** Need to work on a TEP grant application, and need approximately \$480,000 to do an adequate social marketing campaign, including \$40,000 from the city and university (20% match)
 - o Needs to be a multi-level program conducted throughout the city
- **(JS)** Considering what needs to be done now, rather than later
- **(DB)** The only alternative to a service fee would be a property tax, needing a super-majority
- **(DB)** Snow Removal – the city is focused on the safety of the majority of pedestrian in the more high traffic areas, and few citations are given.
 - o Major concerns were expressed by members of the Board about this problem. This needs to be addressed with concrete proposals and changes in the City Code prior to next winter.

IV. Recommendations for \$200,000 budgeted by the city for sidewalk upgrades in the coming year

- a. Sidewalk priorities from pedestrian safety plan for discussion:
 - Bill Reger-Nash made a motion to allocate all of the funds from the city to focus on Suncrest Middle and Primary schools. Seconded by Jimmie Simmons. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The following projects from the Pedestrian Safety Plan will be presented in a letter by Christiaan to the Traffic Commission for approval at their April 7, 2010 meeting:
 - 1) Project 85 Suncrest Middle
 - 2) Project 86 Suncrest Middle
 - 3) Project 96 Suncrest Primary
 - 4) Project 97 Suncrest Primary
 - 5) Project 98 Suncrest Primary
 - 6) Project 115 Suncrest Primary
 - 7) Project 111 Collins Ferry Road
 - 8) Project 24 University Avenue in Evansdale

PRIORITY: Sidewalks need to be extending out from the school, focusing initially where sidewalks do not exist, then on repairing existing sidewalks. Also, the Board will request the ability to review the proposals after the engineers develop their plan.

The state is considering widening the Mileground, must have a provision for sidewalks. Public Hearing on this issue on April 20th 4-7 @ the Airport. Please plan on attending and encouraging others to attend.

Motion to adjourn by Stan Cohen. Motion seconded by Jimmie Simmons. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 5:48 pm.

---Minutes recorded by Jon Bond