

Minutes
Morgantown Pedestrian Safety Board Meeting
Public Safety Building- Morgantown, WV
Monday, September 14, 2009, 4:00–5:58 PM

- I. Call to Order by Chair Christiaan Abildso at 4:10 pm.
- II. Attendance : Christiaan Abildso, Bill Reger-Nash, Hugh Kierig, , Dwight Harshbarger, George Lilley, Ella Belling, Jimmie Simmons, Maria Smith, Bob Anderson, Matthew Cross, Don Spencer, Martha Summers, Stan Cohen, and Jenny Selin.
- III. Board membership verification. No action taken.
- IV. Review of August meeting minutes/unfinished business
 - A) Investigate purchase of two 8x3 banners for use during WVU Transportation Week -DONE
 - B) Purchase Year of Active Transport giveaway items-DONE
 - C) Email Greg Good re: past “active transportation” survey-Christiaan – still TO DO
 - D) Email Sprint Splash & Spin volunteer contact information-DONE
 - E) Email link to current draft version of survey-DONE
- V. Resolution in support of police enforcement of regulations prohibiting parking on sidewalks – Don
 - A) Important discussion as sidewalks are regularly blocked by cars and trucks, impeding walking by the able bodies as well as people with disabilities. Don Spencer will speak with Chief Scott about this problem. Letter to be drafted.
- VI. Navigating local politics and neighborhood organizations to implement our Plan–Bill, Christiaan, Don
 - A) A need exists for the Neighborhood Assns. to work in conjunction with the Neighborhood Assns. Coordinating Council. The Coordinating Council meets on the 2nd Monday at 7 pm. Jeff Mikorski is the lead contact and we need to contact him to be placed on their agenda.
 - B) Board members are encouraged to adopt a Neighborhood association and regularly attend their meetings. Each Association should be given a copy of the Pedestrian Safety Plan, so they can use this document to address their pedestrian concerns. Bill will attend Woodburn, Jimmie is a member of Wiles Hill, Bob Anderson and Matt Cross are members of Suncrest. Others?
 - C) Wiles Hill is particularly concerned about WVU plans for the North Fire Station and have so expressed these concerns in *The Dominion Post*. No matter what WVU does, they need to follow the guidelines of the Pedestrian Safety Plan. We expect that Hugh Kierig will be the eyes and ears for the Pedestrian Safety Board. Matt Cross to draft letter to WVU, which will be submitted to Chair Abildso.
- VII. Year of Active Transport website content – Suggested content and links are as follows:
 - A) Neighborhood Association Transportation updates
 - B) Safety Tips for Children, Elderly, General Population
 - C) Positive and Negative Tales of Active Transport (do not just want to hear the good. Bad and Ugly are impt as well).

- D) Active Commuting Participant Profiles
- E) Active Transport Problem areas, e.g., bad sidewalks, bad intersections, etc.
- F) Maps with Active Transport routes and location of bike racks.
- G) Links are needed for the Pedestrian Safety Plan, Maps of preferred pedestrian routes through the city, Mountain Line home page and bus routes, Google Maps for pedestrians, Excuses for not doing active transport (from the League of American Cyclists), MRTC Website, Green Team (Morgantown 2010 Growing Greener)

VIII. Year of Active Transport, September--**KEY EVENT: WVU Transportation Week, 9/12-17**

- A) International Car Free Day, September 22. Extensive information available on the web. Stan Cohen recommended that WVU examine the possibility of Free Week Day Parking offsite. Other areas have taken parking lots and undertaken a Repurpose process, ie, transforming them into a greener alternative.
- B) **WVU Transportation Week** (September 12-17) kicked off with a booth at the Morgantown Farmers' Market that offered those market customers who walked or biked to the Market free pedometers, water bottles and T-shirts as well as free literature describing the benefits of walking, biking, or the use of alternative transportation in Morgantown. As it does with all home football games, the PRT provided free service for the East Carolina game. Free PRT service on Sunday was offered to take students to the WELL WVU's Try It! event held at the Hazel Ruby McQuain Park Amphitheater.

Monday through Friday highlights an alternative transportation mode starting with walking on Monday, bicycling on Tuesday, and carpool / vanpool on Wednesday. These are three of the many programs included in the University's WE GO! program that promote Active Transport to University students and staff. WVU employees who joined the Occasional Parking Program and gave up their parking permit in favor of using any of the Active Transport modes were awarded with free T-shirts, pedometers, and water bottles as well as 18 free one-day parking permits. Those who sign up for carpool or vanpool programs also get reduced fee parking permits, preferred parking locations, and are offered four free guaranteed rides home. For Tuesday's Bicycle Day, WVU students and staff are encouraged to ride their bicycles to class and work and can sign-up for **free** Bicycle Safety Training taught by a certified instructor of the League of American Bicyclists.

Thursday of Transportation Week is dedicated to the promotion of the region's Mountain Line bus service. WVU students, faculty, and staff who ride Mountain Line the most between Monday and Wednesday will be awarded prizes. Friday caps the week-long celebration with PRT Day, when free fares will be offered to the community and information and prizes will be handed out at the five stations.

- C) Mountain Line Kiosk Launch – to focus on enhanced Mountain Line services at the malls.

IX. Year of Active Transport for October

- A) **KEY EVENT: WVU Multimodal Facility Dedication scheduled for October 19.**

WVU is looking forward to a new era in Active Transport with the October 19 opening of the new Mountaineer Station. Located at the Health Sciences Center PRT Station, Mountaineer Station is an intermodal transportation center that will provide interior bicycle storage, a 500-space parking garage, Mountain Line shelters and lobby, showers for bicyclists and walkers, and direct access to the PRT. The Department of Transportation

and Parking will have their administrative and parking management offices there as well. This will be a great community asset.

- B) Rail Trail to Work Week - October 5-10– PLAN with Pedestrian Safety Board and MRTC giveaways, media, & volunteers. Volunteers needed to help with giveaways. Bill, Christiaan, and Ella will be at the Waterfront Hotel from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm on October 6 to give out bike safety lights.
- C) National Walk to School Day – October 7 At this time, nothing is planned.
- D) Walking School Bus – possibility of hosting Safe Routes to Schools training program? Volunteers include Matthew Cross. Bill will check with Colleen Harshbarger about the program at North or Suncrest Elementary in 2003.
- E) Arts Monongahela – The Arts Walk – October 2, 6-9 pm. Nice opportunity to enjoy Downtown Morgantown.

X. The Morgantown Pedestrian Safety Plan is available online at http://www.morgantown.com/traffic-docs/Pedestrian_Safety_Board/MTown%20Ped%20Safety%20Plan%207_13_2009.pdf. This working document should guide all pedestrian related actions and policies for the city of Morgantown. Any Board member wishing a hard copy of the plan should contact Council person Don Spencer. Don will have copies made, including a copy for each of the Neighborhood Associations.

A) Don Spencer reviewed Chapter 7, Safer City Initiatives and Support. A pdf copy of this chapter accompany these minutes.

XI. Set Time & Date of the Next Pedestrian Safety Board Meeting
 ***Monday, October 12th, 4-5:30 pm at the Public Safety Building

XII. Other Items. Communication received from a Mon County resident expressing concern that a communication with the Mon County offices not responding to her concerns about the lack of pedestrian infrastructure policies in the county. Don Spencer suggested that this inquiry be forwarded to Bill Austin, executive director of the Greater Morgantown MPO.

XIII. Motion to adjourn, seconded, and approved at 5:58 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bill Reger-Nash, September 15, 2009.

Action Item	Member(s)
Reflective bands promoting Halloween safety for distribution in the schools (with our logo)	Martha
Complete Active Transport Website postings by October 1.	Nick
Speak with Chief Scott about enforcement of no parking on sidewalks	Don
Check with Colleen Harshbarger about the Walking School Bus program at North or Suncrest Elementary in 2003.	Bill
Identify coordinator for Walking School Bus Program	Bill
Waterfront Hotel/trail on October 6 from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Pass out incentives for active commuting to work on Rail Trail	Christiaan, Ella, and Bill
Contact <i>The Dominion Post</i> about above trail giveaway	Bill
Draft October Active Transport column for <i>The Dominion Post</i> by September 28.	Bob
Draft letter and send to Christiaan	Matt

Attend Neighborhood Association meetings of Woodburn, South Park, and Suncrest, respectively.	Bill, Christiaan, Matt, Bob
Identify Neighborhood Association meetings to attend	All Board Members
Contact Jeff Mikorski about getting on agenda for Neighborhood Association Coordinating Council	Christiaan
Complete Active Transport website	Christiaan
Contact Jeff Mikorski about State and City ped safety and Active Transport expenditures.	Bill
Follow up on Participant Profiles. Identify where they are.	Matt
Walk at least 30 minutes daily, Use Active Transport at least weekly, <u>Take good care of yourself!!</u>	All