

BBAC minutes

May 12, 2014 - 6:30pm – 8:30pm

16 George Street North (Brampton Safe City Association offices)

Attendees: Members: Councillor John Hutton, David Laing, Dayle Laing, Pauline (Polly) Thornham, Stephen Laidlaw, Kevin Montgomery, John Van West, , Paola Rico, George Shepperdley

Guests: Ernst Braendli

Regrets: Gerald Pyjor, Jerry Prato, Tricia Prato

Meeting Started: 6:34 pm

Review and approve minutes from last meeting Motion to approve minutes: George, seconded Steve – Carried

Actions arising from previous minutes None

BBAC Project Updates

1. Downtown bicycle revitalization project including updated signage, bicycle parking, downtown signed bike routes etc.

The Gil Penalosa keynote presentation, organized by the Brampton Downtown Development Corporation, was held at the Rose Theatre on April 23rd. BBAC members participated by helping Cyclepath bring and remove bicycles from the stage. BBAC members also rode onto the stage as Peter VanSickle introduced Mr. Penalosa. Members were then escorted to front row seating. John reported that the presentation was remarkable in context and substance. Steve added that Mr. Penalosa's message was one of a positive lifestyle choice and that he took our BBAC discussions of the past year to a conclusion of a prescription for change. Kevin added that these changes do not have to be expensive and can start with painting some lines on pavement. George encouraged members to subscribe to the blog on the 8-80cities website: <http://8-80cities.org/> John wants to see cooperation

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between the 8-80 Cities consulting for Brampton and Metrolinx for transit integration. Polly remarked on Mr. Penalosa's message about the importance of "political will" to make the necessary changes. There was discussion about the paradigm shift needed to invert the pyramid of priorities from car-active, to active-car. David related this idea to the modal shift that communities like Milton and Waterloo have undertaken for economic reasons – to offset the costs of road building.

Action: Dayle to write and post article on our website, from her notes taken at presentation <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/05/15/people-like-spicey-city-gil-penalosa/>

Polly commented that the Brampton Guardian has more content relevant to biking since the new editor arrived. Polly suggested last meeting that a letter be written to the editor of the Brampton Guardian regarding the future of cycling and growth in Brampton.

Action: Dayle to post article about this editorial positive to active transportation to our website: <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/05/13/gridlock-costing-brampton-millions-lost-productivity/>

Action: BBAC members to send Polly short notes about what avid cyclists require in Brampton

Action: Polly to compiling information for a letter to the editor of the Brampton Guardian.

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2. Safe bike routes to schools pilot project PEEL Bike Rodeos committee (now called the Peel Bike Education Workgroup)

Polly reported that the purpose of the workgroup is to educate children about cycling. Currently only 6% of grade 3 students are receiving cycling education. The goal is to expand this from grade 3 to grades 9 or 10. The workgroup is preparing an online kit that will have more immediate reach beyond what Peel Safety Village and Brampton Safe City are able to offer presently.

Action: BBAC members are encouraged to provide photos indicating: "2 V 1" rules, bike inspection, street signs, hand signals, properly crossing intersections, and properly passing parked vehicles. Members should forward

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to Polly if permission can be granted for their use.

3. Bike recycling program for disadvantaged families
(Adaoma Patterson, Peel Poverty Reduction Strategy)

David and Gerald co-presented April 18th to Region of Peel group. David reported that their presentation was well received. Someone claimed the presentation gave them “goose bumps”. They linked the benefits of bicycling to lower income families, by breaking the cycle of inactivity due to health and the expenses of operating a car. An opportunity could be created by starting a pilot location for bike repairs, training, and mentoring that could offer a myriad of other services in a neutral nonjudgmental location. The “goose bump” moment was probably the quote that “the best gift you can give a child is a bicycle because it offers them a healthy lifestyle”. Janet Menard, Commissioner, Region of Peel spoke to David afterward and requested a presentation to Regional Council for June 26th. A follow up meeting has already occurred to discuss details and a presentation date is yet to be decided. David was also invited to speak at the Brampton Board of Trade Fuse Panel May 22nd as a result of the presentation. Motilall Sarjoo (Sarj), President of the Peel Regional Labour Council also requested a presentation. Group discussion followed about the pilot location needing to be safe, accessible, free and approximately 500 square foot size.

Action: David to follow up with Katrina Doktor at Brampton Library regarding her Environmental Literacy program and possibility of using library space

Action: David to follow up with Region of Peel Police regarding potential donation of unclaimed stolen bikes

Action: Polly to investigate possible cooperation with the Air Cadets
David cautioned that this program will not likely roll out until after the fall election, so that action items could be deferred until October.

4. Bike the Creek (Etobicoke Creek Trail nature interpretive bike ride) June 21st

Dayle posted link for registration through either City of Brampton or TRCA: <http://bikebrampton.ca/events-2/>

She also posted this link to Facebook group Heart Lake Happenings and is working on the next issue of our newsletter, featuring articles about Bike the

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Creek. TRCA (Toronto and Region Conservation Authority) posted information in their latest Etobicoke & Mimico Watersheds CreekTime e-newsletter, under Unique Watershed Events coming your Way:

<http://www.trca.on.ca/the-living-city/watersheds/etobicoke-mimico-creek/creektime/archive/?id=186966>

The Brampton Guardian published on May 7th an advertisement mentioning Bike the Creek in part of “Catch the Spirit – What’s on in Brampton”. The June 21st date was incorrectly listed as a Wednesday instead of a Saturday.

Action: Dayle to find link to this ad: <http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk//launch.aspx?eid=d560d9d8-032c-4415-b6a0-30b971589168>

Action: David to discuss future advertisement strategy with Michele Robinson David reported that registration has surpassed 180! It is fairly evenly divided amongst the 10, 30 and 40 km routes. Already organized are: a DJ, two bike mechanics. A caterer is yet to be organized. Michele says that 60-70 volunteers are required and has sent David a volunteer job description. Approximately 5 hours of training and then 5 hours the day of the event are required. David is concerned that we will need many volunteers due to incomplete signage along the trail. Temporary signs will also be used. It is vitally important that participants have a good experience the day of the event and want to return to ride the trail in the future.

Action: David to forward job description to BBAC members for more volunteer recruitment.

Action: Dayle to post job description as attachment for minutes

Action: Polly to organize media coverage invitation for rodeo at Bike the Creek if rodeo is confirmed for June 21st (90% certain).

Dayle designed and printed a business card size for advertising Bike the Creek to people in Brampton. Cards were given to BBAC members at the Rose Theatre event. Sets of cards were distributed to members present at BBAC meeting. There is no budget for this and cards were printed with existing personal card stock and printer ink. Dayle sent design file to Erica for Walk +

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Roll promotion.

Action: Kevin to send Dayle a QR code to include in a subsequent printing of the cards.

David contacted and sent posters to Nadine at Bramalea Community Health Centre and Anu at Punjabi Community Health Services for event promotion.

Action: David to send poster information to Trudy in Councillor Hutton's office to forward to Caledon Councillor Allan Thompson to coordinate and encourage Caledon residents' participation. Councillor Hutton reported that Trudy is retiring and that BBAC members are invited to a reception for her at City Hall this Thursday from 2-4pm.

David supplied Councillor Hutton with list of essential curb cuts for Bike the Creek path as requested immediately following March meeting. David spoke with Nelson Cadete today to follow up about the curb cuts. Nelson advised David that the ice storm has prevented permanent signage being installed in time for our event. In addition, the risk management team has pushed back on Brampton making curb cuts. Councillor Hutton expressed disappointment at this report.

Action: David to forward information about the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, Section 44 to both Nelson Cadete and Councillor Hutton, and to include the quotation by Belinda A. Bain, Partner & Co-Head Insurance and Professional Liability Group, Gowlings, who spoke about this issue at the Ontario Bike Summit, as reported by David at last BBAC meeting.

Action: Councillor Hutton to raise issue of curb cuts at either this coming meeting of Council or in two weeks, following receipt of information from David.

David reported that we will build our own temporary ramp at Mary Street to connect to the multiuse path, and to ignore this would be unsafe for our event. David informed Nelson Cadete of our intention.

Action: David to coordinate construction and installation of ramp with another member of BBAC.

Action: BBAC volunteers to contact David regarding building ramp.

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Action: David to forward the information tomorrow for Trudy to prepare an invitation to the department chiefs for their attendance at Bike the Creek.

Action: Erica to forward meeting minutes on outcome of Feb 12th meeting with Waterfront Trails Trust and representatives from Peel and Brampton re Greenbelt trails signage requirements along the Etobicoke Creek Trail.

5. Social Media and Website

Action: Kevin to report website and social media traffic next month.

6. Project BEAT (Built Environment and Active Transport)

Erica reported that Dr. Ron Buliung, professor at U of T, co-principle investigator on Project BEAT, will be releasing the results of his latest study on April 24th. This research is related to children and active transportation.

http://www.physical.utoronto.ca/Beat/Who_we_are/Dr_Ron_Buliung.aspx

Action: Erica to provide information once study is published.

7. Develop a prioritized list of infrastructure projects

BBAC identified bicycle infrastructure priorities:

- a. Active transportation crossing of Queen St. at Scott St.,
- b. Repair of railway level crossing at James and John Streets
- c. Replacement of stairs at Wellington Street with an accessible ramp.
- d. Curb cuts along the Etobicoke Creek Trail as identified in a note by David
- e. Additional signage along Etobicoke Creek Trail
- f. Kennedy Valley Trail Extension
- g. Bicycle Facilities along County Court, Fernforest, Richvale Drive
- h. Multi-use trail signs and marking along McVean Drive, Clarkway Blvd and Chinguacousy Road in accordance with OTM Book 18

David reported that Nelson Cadete said that John's requested list of bicycle infrastructure priorities (items a, b and c above) will be going before Council

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on May 28th. Item 'c' requires negotiations with a landowner, so will take time.

Action: John and any available BBAC members are encouraged to attend City of Brampton Council meeting on May 28th to show support.

David reported that the City's plan is to have a separate signed bike route to avoid the stairs at Wellington Street.

Next Critical Mass Ride is Friday May 30th 6:15pm at Gage Park --- (every last Friday of the month) Depending on weather and number of riders, a section may be selected for our ongoing preparation of list of good trails and issues for city attention.

Action: David to bring Kevin's 3'x4' map with bike routes for ongoing use and updates at each meeting.

Action: BBAC members to note issues from sections and provide list to David

Action: David to consolidate and send section issue list to Councillor Hutton for city staff.

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8. Brampton CeleBrampton BikeFest, Saturday June 14th,
11am-3pm
Brampton Flower City Parade immediately following
BikeFest, 3-4pm

Dayle updated our website with additional information now available from city. <http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/04/21/celebrampton-flower-city-parade-june-14-2014/>

David confirmed that Michele Robinson has a booth location for BBAC which is more central than last year. 30,000 residents attended Celebrampton last year. David submitted a MTO application by April 30th for a grant of \$1000 for safety equipment to be distributed to residents at BikeFest. Discussion about streamlining our booth activities compared with last year and also using our existing 300 pamphlets for hand-outs. BBAC members are invited to participate in the Flower City Parade from 3-4pm, and will need to bring flowers and plastic ties to decorate their bicycles. Dayle reported we have a donated folding table top display that takes three 2'x3' posters. Discussion about possibly displaying Kevin's 3'x4' map at our booth. Kevin reported printing that size on glossy stock would be \$100 at Kinkos.

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Action: John to investigate plasticore 3'x4' production pricing.

Action: BBAC members to confirm booth and/or parade attendance with David. (so far, David, Dayle, maybe George)

Action: Determine if Gerald is available for BikeFest and if he can demonstrate use of a "trueing" stand for bent bike wheels

9. Snelgrove Association Picnic, Sat. July 5th

Action: David to confirm our attendance with Councillor Hutton so that BBAC can assign volunteers and responsibilities

New Business

1. Meeting control

Dayle reviewed issues with writing minutes. She asked for committee cooperation in following the agenda and being clear in comments and actions.

Action: Dayle to send Robert Rules of Democracy to interested BBAC members.

2. Greenbelt Trail Leaders Ride and Seminars May 7th

Dayle posted article and photos on our website:

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/05/09/greenbelt-route-leaders-mobile-workshop-may-7-2014/>

George and David participated in the seminars and bike ride from Georgetown to Newmarket. George reported that the 5-day event ran from Niagara Falls to Cobourg. The Wednesday event was 86 km over a combination of flat converted rail track along the TransCanada Trail and some very steep hilly sections along roads. George was particularly taken with the overpass at Hwy#10 in Caledon (pictured in the website article). Caledon Mayor Marolyn Morrison refused to give up on the bridge idea despite objections and obstacles from the Ministry of Transportation. This was a positive story of the triumph of political will and leadership. This was an excellent networking opportunity, and BBAC is invited to apply for a grant

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from the Waterfront Regeneration Trust for Bike the Creek for next year. Dayle photographed the opening seminar and the ending point and sent George's, David's and her photograph images to the Executive Director, Marlane Koehler.

3. Motorists and Cyclists Education

David reported that he spoke with Sergeant Tom Murray (Peel bike patrol, 21 Division) to discuss safety program implementation in Brampton. The cycling education blitz of enforcement is scheduled to occur in Mississauga. Sergeant Murray was unaware of plans to implement in Brampton. David and Sergeant Murray discussed an education focus rather than an approach of penalizing "problem cyclists". Having Ontario Bill 173 passed will make sharing the road responsibilities much clearer. David was told that Bike the Creek lies in 22 Division, because it is located west of #410.

Action: David to contact Sergeant Curtis in 22 Division

4. Heart and Stroke Foundation Advocacy Grant Application

David reviewed the status of H&S grant application and the implications for BBAC. The grant of \$5000 would be used to determine why we can't do more to encourage safe and active routes to schools. 53% of children walked or cycled in 1978 and now the number is a dismal 16%. The current system is broken. Focus groups would be conducted to determine factors: cultural? economic? safety? perception of violence? David will hear results of the application within a month. We have the potential to access funding through other foundations if they are amenable. There is also the potential for future grants should this be successful.

Action: David to report on status at June meeting

5. Brampton Rotary Glen presentation, April 28th

David reported that Dayle accompanied him to present to Rotary about sponsoring our Bike the Creek event. The presentation was well received. A commitment was tentatively made to sponsor downtown cycling signage.

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Action: David to follow up with Rotary for signage commitment.

Action: Dayle to write article and post photos to website

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/05/15/cycling-future-presentation-apr-28-2014/>

Dayle commented that they saw a remarkably large display of bicycles on racks at the David Suzuki Secondary School (on Chinguacousy Road) on the way to the event.

6. Bike to Work Day Breakfast May 26th, Garden Square, 7:30-9am

Dayle posted an update to our website:

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/05/02/bike-work-day-brampton-garden-square-may-26-2014/>

David reported that Smart Commute has organized this event. Garden Square is located in front of the Rose Theatre on the NE corner of Queen and Main Streets. BBAC is invited to display in a booth. David has been invited to make a 5 minute presentation at the event.

Action: David to bring our table top display with bike safety posters, pamphlets, and Bike the Creek business cards.

Action: BBAC members to confirm their attendance with David. (George, Polly and maybe John have volunteered)

7. Western GTA Live Task Force Presentation, June 9th 6pm, DTZ Barnicke office, 90 Burnhamthorpe Rd W (just south of Square One)

David reported that Beth Savan, Partner at Think Do Tank will be presenting research study results on Cycling Economic Impact, at the invitation of the Chair, Peter Vansicle. The room can hold 100 people.

Action: David to acquire more details, especially regarding registration

Action: Dayle to post link on website

8. Fight Gridlock in Brampton open public meeting, May 8th

Kevin reported that a couple of dozen people attended a meeting that he co-organized with Chris Drew at St. Paul's United Church in Brampton. He

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reviewed the public information session material from the Hurontario-Main LRT Project. The link for LRT comments is still up on our website:

<http://bikebrampton.ca/2014/03/24/metrolinx-public-info-session/>

Action: Kevin to post the slide deck for Fight Gridlock

<http://www.fightgridlock.ca/>

Referred Matters List

1. Discussion with Nelson Cadete re specifications for including pedestrians and cyclists in design for traffic roundabouts

Action: Deferred until Nelson present

2. Questions for Brampton politicians to determine cycling position for upcoming election

Action: Deferred until candidates announced and BBAC formulates questions based on the infrastructure priorities list

3. Brampton Ward Rides

Action: Bring forward discussion to January 2015 meeting, once new Councillors are in place

4. Mayfield Road Environmental Assessment

Action: David to hear from Neal Smith regarding dates for public information feedback.

Meeting Adjourned 8:45p.m.

Moved by Polly, seconded by Kevin - Carried

Next meeting Monday June 23rd, 6:30 p.m.