

CITY OF AUBURN, ALABAMA

BICYCLE COMMITTEE

Approved MINUTES of January 28, 2020

A. Attendance:

Members (Present):

Bruno Ulrich (Chair/Secretary)	(334) 300-0929	bulrich@charter.net
Tim McDonald	(334) 444-5106	mcdonaldtimothyp@gmail.com
Todd Deery	(407) 529-4931	todddeery@auburn.edu
Peter Livant	(334)707-3941	livanpd@auburn.edu
Brandy Ezelle (COA)	(334) 501-3029	bezelle@auburnalabama.org
Gabby Filgo (COA)	(334) 501-2946	gfilgo@auburnalabama.org

Members (Absent)

Jose Torres (proxy to McDonald)	(818) 294-8096	ironworkerson@gmail.com
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Interested Individuals Attending: None

B. Commencement: Chair Bruno Ulrich called the meeting to order circa 7:00 p.m. CST.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November 19, 2019, Minutes were unanimously approved. (Tim McDonald made a motion to approve; Todd Deery, seconded).

D. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Ride and Seek: A Bicycle Safety Adventure:

Members of the Committee present attended the Ride and Seek Subcommittee meeting. No visitors attended the meeting; hence. No further discussion on the subject was held on the Event. (Copies of the Ride and Seek Committee Minutes of January 28th are available upon request from Bruno)..

2. Membership Representation:

Bruno brought to the attention of the members, Article III, paragraph 1 of the By-Laws that states in part as follows: *“To help promote diversity in members, the five (5) non-COA members will each focus on one (1) aspect of the broad spectrum of bicycle usage”* That being the case, Bruno noted the members have now offered their services as follows:

- a. Todd Deery: Mountain and Gravel;
- b. Peter Livant: Casual;
- c. Tim McDonald: Commuter;
- d. Jose Torres: Experienced; and
- e. Bruno Ulrich: Tourism.

Accordingly, Bruno urged each person to familiarize themselves with the opportunities, needs, and issues associated with each group of cyclists and to be prepared to address those at subsequent meetings. Bruno and Brandy commented that much work went into this concept of representation by Committee members as part of updating the By-Laws in 2019. The composition of the Committee in recent history tended to be exclusively or almost exclusively in favor of the casual or experienced road cyclists.

3. Amendment to the By-Laws: Membership Requirement:

At its November 19, 2019, meeting Bruno commented that the current By-Laws require in part that “*All members must live in the COA Planning Jurisdiction*” to be eligible for membership (Article III – Membership- Paragraph # 1). This is inconsistent with the COA’s current policy; e.g., Planning Commission membership. To correct that, Bruno suggested and Tim McDonald offered to sponsor a written statement at the November meeting that the provision to be modified to read that “*All members must live or work in the COA Planning Jurisdiction.*” Gabby moved the Amendment be adopted; seconded by Todd Deery and unanimously approved by the membership.

4. Update on ConnectAuburn Master Plans:

Brandy reported that the COA’s project management team is currently reviewing both the Greenway and Bikeway plans and completing their review. Bruno reported that he had reviewed the *Greenway Master Plan* produced under a contract with Skipper Consulting and Alta Planning a Design and found it a very thoughtful and comprehensive plan. Brandy reported that she would provide Bruno access to the City’s *Bikeway Master Plan* for review and comment. She further commented that at his discretion Bruno could release the Bikeway Master Plan to the Committee, recognizing that it was under review by the COA’s project management team; hence, not currently for release to the public. Also, for review by the public through the COA’s website is the *Comprehensive City-Wide Traffic Study* (2019); it contains elements of both the Greenway and Bikeway master plans.

5. Mid-Town Development on Opelika/Auburn Highway: Brandy presented a copy of the nearly completed construction plans of the Mid-Town plans for review with the Committee. It was noted that over the course of the last several months Committee members and others had inquired as to status of restoring the bike lanes and otherwise completing the work on the highway. Brandy reported that the developer had contributed money towards the planned improvements pursuant to the development agreement with the COA. In general, the plans call for widening the right-of-way on both sides of the road, multi-use bike and pedestrian paths, bike lanes, U-turns, limited curb cuts, among other improvements. Bid documents have to be finalized, advertised, and let. Brandy estimated a contract likely would be let in about four months with construction taking through 2020. (See also Item # F of the November 19, 2019, Minutes).

6. **Bicycle Flier:**

Bruno presented a flier that Brandy, COA's Chris Graff, and he are working on for use primarily by the *Casual* and *Tourist* category cyclists. The flier will be 8 ½" x 14" with three (3) folds. An insert will include select locations in Downtown and AU campus areas where Auburn War Eagle Bikes are available for rent. Also, bicycle safety tips are included. Several suggestions were made, including coding routes according to some definable anxiety metrics. Brandy commented that the notion of creating anxiety metrics and rating routes accordingly is very complex process and beyond the scope of this flier. Bruno commented that the creation of a flier has been in the making for several years by a number of different individuals without results. It is hoped that while it is a work in progress the flier would be a successful attempt at getting a reasonable map of cycling opportunities out to the public this Spring. He envisioned it would be updated once the Bikeway Plan is adopted and published.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Election of New Members:**

At its November 19, 2019, meeting, the Committee pursuant to Article III of the By-laws approved the following individuals for two (2) year terms effective as of November 19, 2019. This is in accordance with Article III – Membership – Paragraph 6, “[t]he applicant’s term will begin immediately upon being approved by majority vote of the ABC.”

- a. Mr. Jose Torres (Experienced) and
- b. Mr. Todd Deery (Mountain and Gravel).

Bruno on behalf of the Committee welcomed both Jose and Todd and looked forward to working with both.

2. **Organizational Duties (Article IV of the By-laws):**

Bruno commented that in striving to fulfill its role under Article II of the By-laws, five (5) major categories of tasks were outlined under Article IV for which Committee members were either to take the lead role or to assist the COA. Three (3) of these are highlighted below along with the Committee member volunteering to assist the COA staff in completing them. In each of the three task listed below, the Committee’s representative will work with Brandy.

- a. **Bicycle Friendly Community Application** (Due August 1, 2020): Jose Torres.
Task: Assist the COA in pursuing and advancing the City’s status as a Bicycle Friendly Community.

- b. **Celebrate National Bike Month** (May 1, 2020): Jose Torres.
Task: Work with business, organizations, and the COA to encourage cycling and promote community investment in cycling.
- c. **Bicycle Friendly Community – Hosting *Bike to Work* Event**: Tim McDonald.
To be coordinated with Celebrate National Bike Month.

Brandy commented that select events outside the auspices of the Bicycle Committee are held during Bike Month by other organizations; e.g., East Alabama Cycling Club (Ride of Silence), James Brothers Bike (Bikes and Bruises), among others. Also, the COA will post a complete as possible calendar on the month's activities as May approaches.

F. CITIZENS COMMENT(S): None

G. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned circa 8:10 p.m. C.S.T.

End of Minutes

Minutes prepared by Bruno Ulrich, Secretary