



A meeting of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) was held on the above date at 7:00 p.m., Games Room, Rotary Complex, Stratford.

Committee Present: Councillor Vassilakos – Chair presiding, Lorraine Kuepfer – Vice-Chair, Councillor McManus, Cambria Ravenhill, Stephen Barlow, Bernard Goward, Ryan Ritskes and Gary Jacques

Staff Present: Nancy Bridges – Recording Secretary

Also Present: Members of the public

Regrets: Dave Mabee

MINUTES

1. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF BY MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL.

None declared.

2. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES – April 25, 2018

Motion by Lorraine Kuepfer, seconded by Gary Jacques

That the ATAC minutes dated April 25, 2018 be adopted as printed.

Carried.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

a.) Bicycle route working group update

Gary Jacques and Steve Barlow presented the map of proposed bike routes they have developed. Mr. Barlow noted that they began with a tourist/recreation route and then worked on a local/commuter route. The recreation routes are circular and the commuter routes work out from the centre of the city outwards. They encountered a few difficult areas to map out, such as how to cross Lorne Avenue. Mr. Jacques noted there are four (4) commuter routes which focus on getting to and from specific locations and are divided into each quadrant. Whenever they encountered a one-way street, the route followed the intended direction of the street.

Mr. Barlow recommended that staff look into obtaining different funding depending on whether it is a commuter vs tourist route. Councillor Vassilakos agreed and noted that getting the government to add the Stratford Festival to the list of tourist locations they recognize would allow for more funding opportunities.

Mr. Barlow noted that some of the East to West and North to South routes tie into current routes and only require some painting of sharrows to complete route. He described some of the proposed routes and noted that they worked on the assumption that commuters want to get places as fast as possible.

Ryan Ritskes now present (7:11pm).

Councillor Vassilakos stated that alternate routes can be developed for areas that are difficult to navigate. For example, directing the route across the dam at the York Street parking lot, rather than crossing the Huron Street bridge. Councillor Vassilakos will distribute a copy of the map to the committee and once the group agrees on the map, it can be discussed with staff. Ultimately it would be beneficial to have the bike route map on the City's website. The committee agreed that it would be beneficial to have a staff member who has time built into their schedule for routing/wayfinding issues.

Mr. Barlow inquired when the post and ring bike racks would be installed. Councillor Vassilakos noted they should be installed during the Spring and that she will get an update from staff on this progress. She also noted that the budget does allow for the purchase of a bike valet and corral.

b.) Strategic Planning

Councillor Vassilakos stated that the previous motions made by ATAC regarding the multi-use trails will be going to the Infrastructure, Transportation and Safety Sub-committee in the near future. She noted that there may be commuter funds available to help complete the Douro Street trail. Staff will ultimately decide whether both routes get done. Mr. Barlow noted that the working group will add the Douro Street multi-use trail to the route map they developed. Councillor Vassilakos also requested that Devon Street be added to the map as an alternative to Ontario Street. ATAC's focus will shift towards pedestrian routes in the Fall.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a.) Update from working groups

Councillor Vassilakos noted that the school travel pilot program is complete. Both pilot schools were very enthusiastic and the program was well received. There was a great turnout at the bike rodeo. The working group will prepare reports for each school and compile the data that was collected from the program.

Councillor Vassilakos stated that Bedford Public School has already expressed interest to be a part of the program in September and the working group is looking for another school to take part. Mr. Barlow will ask the Principal of Avon Public School to see if there is any interest in joining the program. Councillor Vassilakos noted that once a school participates in the program it is up to them to continue to promote the active transportation lifestyle and adjust the program for their needs. She also noted that there is a Google drive accessible to the participant schools to provide ongoing information.

Councillor McManus suggested that staff create a calendar of events for Active Transportation so that the public can be kept up-to-date on upcoming events; ie. "Bike to work week". Councillor Vassilakos emphasized the need for a City staff member to work on these projects.

The committee agreed that rotating through events at the schools every 2, 3, 4 years will keep the interest high and providing the schools with easy ways to run the events will help maintain the program. Changing the culture of society is important so that active transportation becomes automatic. Branching out to every elementary school in Stratford and ultimately into high schools would be the end goal.

Councillor McManus stated that she will create a Google document so that all ATAC members can contribute ideas for the events calendar to be discussed at the June meeting.

Gary Jacques inquired whether a member from the Accessibility Advisory Committee could be added to the Active Transportation Advisory Committee. Councillor Vassilakos noted that the Accessibility Advisory Committee currently reviews everything relating to transportation and accessibility so there is no need for them to sit on ATAC as well. She provided a brief description of the role of the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

NEXT MEETING DATE – Wednesday, June 27, 2018 – 7:00pm – Games Room, Rotary Complex, 353 McCarthy Rd. W.

Motion by Councillor McManus, seconded by Stephen Barlow
**That the May 30, 2018 ATAC meeting adjourn.
Carried.**

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Start Time: 7:03pm
End Time: 7:48pm