

**SAN LUIS OBISPO
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 17, 2001**

CALL TO ORDER:

The San Luis Obispo Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. on Thursday, May 17, 2001, in the Council Hearing Room at City Hall, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, California.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mary Lou Johnson, Jean Anderson, Mark Grayson, Keith Miller, Bruce Collier, Wes Conner, and Chairman Tim Valentine

Absent: None

Staff: Principal Transportation Planner Terry Sanville and Stenographer Leaha Magee

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:

Oxo Slayer, Bicycle Coordinator, SLO Regional Rideshare, reported he's creating a website on bicycle-related issues and requested contact information to obtain calendar dates of other bicycle agencies/groups. He feels the website will help bridge the information gap of area cycling groups. He encouraged greater contact between the Committee and Rideshare to enable better education on bicycling and related activities.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Mr. Collier nominated Ms. Johnson to serve as chair. The nomination was seconded by Ms. Anderson and accepted by Ms. Johnson.

Ms. Johnson nominated Ms. Anderson to serve as chair. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Grayson and accepted by Ms. Anderson.

After a vote between the two nominees, Ms. Johnson was elected chair of the Bicycle Advisory Committee by a 4 to 3 majority vote.

Mr. Collier nominated Ms. Anderson to serve as vice chair. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Conner, accepted by Ms. Anderson, and unanimously approved.

2. DISCUSSION OF COMBINING ADVERTISING/PROMOTIONAL EFFORTS WITH

OTHER AGENCIES:

Mr. Sanville reported on the possibility of combining advertising/promotional efforts with other agencies. He is scheduled to meet with other agency staff members and asked for Committee comments/ideas on efforts/achievements that could be jointly pursued.

Mr. Collier recommended contacting the Downtown Associate and County Visitors and Conference Bureau for support/coordination of promotional activities. He suggested creating a bike to work day that could be marketed, for example, by showing City Council Members riding their bikes to City Hall.

Chairman Valentine supported encouraging greater adult participation in bicycling activities and suggested implementation of employee incentives for bicycling to work. He felt that joint-agency or group sponsorship of activities would greatly enhance participation.

Mr. Grayson concurred with Chairman Valentine's comments and suggested using Davis, California's Cyclebration as a model for revving up the town. He also suggested developing methods for encouraging parent/children activities such as a bike day in the park, establishing a city bicycle loaner program, and scheduling fun rides.

Mr. Conner strongly urged combining efforts with the City's Parks and Recreation Department.

Ms. Anderson stated she would make available to the staff and Committee bicycling activity information/brochures from the League of American Bicyclists. She felt partnerships with the Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Association would be beneficial.

Mr. Miller recommended linking city/county bicycling activities and also felt co-sponsorship would increase participation. He supported Mr. Slayer's development of a community bicycling website and felt it would be a great aid in attaining joint-agency sponsorships.

Chairman Valentine recommended the City's Bicycle Advisory Committee establish its own website and Mr. Collier suggested including links to other bicycle-related sites.

The Committee agreed to discuss this item further at the June 21st meeting. Staff will bring back a list of agencies and activities that may be focused upon for co-sponsorship.

3. REVIEW OF BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE BYLAWS:

The Committee noted a numbering typo (Item 6 was skipped) on page 1 and after further review, accepted the bylaws as corrected.

4. DISCUSSION OF WHAT IS REQUIRED TO UPDATE THE 1993 BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO MEET STATE STANDARDS:

Mr. Sanville presented the staff report and recommended the Committee support Option 2 or 3 as outlined on page 3 of the staff report.

Chairman Valentine had staff review BTA funding criteria and asked if other funding is contingent upon an updated bicycle plan.

Mr. Sanville explained that commuter-bicycle oriented, small- and large-scale capitals projects are targets for BTA funding. Grants for projects usually benefit from the fact that a community has a state-certified bicycle plan and that projects requesting funding are consistent with that plan. Certification by SLOCOG, the regional transportation planning agency, may also be beneficial.

Mr. Conner asked if projects that are both commuter and recreational in nature can be considered for BTA funding.

Mr. Sanville replied yes, but the primary function should meet commuter needs. Projects can also be jointly pursued with other agencies.

Chairman Valentine questioned the staff time estimates for updating the plan.

Mr. Collier noted only seven California cities have current state-certified bicycle plans and felt this is the opportune time to compete for grant funds.

Ms. Johnson raised the idea of hiring a city bicycle coordinator and Ms. Anderson suggested using Cal Poly as a resource.

Mr. Collier moved to recommend to the City Council that the City financially support contracting for the update of the City's Bicycle Transportation Plan, with target completion date for adoption and certification by June 1, 2002. The motion was seconded by Mr. Conner and unanimously approved.

After brief discussion, the Committee reached consensus to continue to reserve its two percent TDA funds solely for promotional and educational projects.

5. PROJECT UPDATES:

Mr. Sanville updated new Committee Members on ongoing city bicycle projects.

6. OTHER INFORMATION ITEMS:

Ms. Anderson reported she recently completed the League of American Bicyclists' certified instructors course.

Mr. Sanville reported that a City Advisory Body training session would be held on June 7th at The Forum from 5:00 to 9:00.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:31 p.m. to a special

meeting scheduled for June 21, 2001, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Hearing Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Leaha K. Magee
Stenographer