

Notes

Regional Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

August 19, 2021

313 Luck Ave SW, Roanoke VA

Present

Cecile Newcomb, Roanoke County
Andrea Garland, City of Roanoke
Garrett Brumfield, Overcome Yours
Tim Pohlads-Thomas, RVARC
Wayne Wilcox, Halcyon Planning
Wayne Leftwich, City of Roanoke
Rachel Ruhlen, RVARC
Carol Moneymaker, Virginia Department
of Transportation
Liz Ackley, Roanoke College

Lexi Hartranft, Roanoke College
Brendan Hall
Barbara Duerk, Connect Now
Sandy Beyers
Erik Olsen, Blackburg Transit
Garrett Brumfield, Overcome Yours
Ken McLeod, League of American
Bicyclists
Nathan Hilbert, National Park Service
Catherine Fox, Visit Virginia's Blue Ridge

Cecile Newcomb called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm.

1. Officer elections

Carol Moneymaker reported that the Nominating Committee recommended Ken McLeod as Chair and Tim Pohlads-Thomas as Vice-Chair. The committee unanimously elected Ken McLeod as Chair and Tim Pohlads-Thomas as Vice-Chair for 2021-2022.

2. Roanoke Valley Community Healthy Living Index

Dr. Liz Ackley, Professor in Health and Human Performance at Roanoke College, developed the Roanoke Valley Community Healthy Living Index and identified health disparities that relate how walkable the environment is with life expectancy and obesity prevalence.

3. Pedestrian Vision Plan

Rachel Ruhlen reported that there are over 500 locations identified in the Pedestrian Vision Plan adopted in 2015 but there is little information at each location about what the problem is. She invited committee members to visit the sites and fill in information using this [Google sheet](#). There may be opportunity for partnering with Roanoke College students. Once this information is complete, or mostly complete, it can be amended into the Pedestrian Vision Plan which locality staff use. Wayne Leftwich may be able to provide relevant input about these locations that was collected during the City Plan update.

4. Updates

Andrea Garland shared that the Pedestrian Safety Campaign, No Need to Speed, just ended. The campaign was very well received. About 300 people signed the pledge and almost 600 yard signs were placed by citizens. The signal box art contest from last year's campaign, Every Corner is a Crosswalk, integrated art and transportation.

Andrea Garland shared that Brandon Avenue has been striped with bike lanes and is almost complete. She encouraged people to speak up with positive feedback if they like it, so that City council members will hear all perspectives and not just complaints.

Cecile Newcomb shared that Roanoke County is updating the Comprehensive Plan and will have a series of community meetings with extensive virtual presence, including storymap, videos, surveys. The meeting schedule and virtual materials are available on the [Roanoke County 200 Plan website](#) and there is a place to sign up for email updates.

Tim Pohlad-Thomas mentioned that he, Ken McLeod, and Andrea Garland are setting up a temporary protected bike lane on Jefferson Street for GoFest that will be a demonstration project of a protected bike lane.

The meeting adjourned at 3:53 pm.

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 21, 2021, 3:00 – 5:00 pm.