

## Whatcom County Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee

June 16, 2021

### Minutes

**Members present:** Sonja Max, Stephen Zylstra, Gary Malick, Sunny Beaver, Pete Sharp, Robin Thomas, Kelly Kendall, Sandy Phillips, Brian Johnson, Jeannine Heidenreich

**Members Absent:** Patrick Alesse

**Staff present:** Jason Ardt (Public Works)

**Public present:** none as of start

Sonja Max called the meeting to order at 5:47 pm.

1. There were no public comments.
2. Gary moved to approve the minutes of the May BPAC meeting. Sunny seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.
3. Sonja announced two new members of the committee: Sandy Phillips and Jeannine Heidenreich, introductions were given
4. An update was given by Brian Johnson on the BPAC website. An overview of the menu items and proposed content was discussed, it was stressed that all links be thoroughly tested. Gary asked about having a calendar. Sandy mentioned it would be a great resource to point new residents to for bike and ped resources. Jason mentioned it would be a way to collect questions and then send out answers to members of the public. Robin suggested it would be a suitable place for county residents to submit complaints about problems with walking and biking facilities. It was agreed by the group that on the site we should be clear about what the BPAC does and does not do. Brian will send a link out to the members of the site in progress.
5. Sunny gave an update on the plan for a group ride this summer: Sunny asked if we will need waivers or permits for this activity. Jason will investigate this. The group agreed that we would concentrate on routes we have been evaluating, the idea of Bellingham to Hovander Park in Ferndale was suggested by Sunny, Gary agreed this would be a great way to evaluate the Bellingham to Ferndale connections. Jason mentioned we may need to be concerned about this being an official meeting with a quorum of the BPAC; he will further investigate. Dates will be looked at. The last weekend in June was suggested by Sunny
6. Sonja gave an update on bicycle route map project. There were not any further details to share so she took the time to brief the new members on the details of the project.
7. Gary shared an account of a recent bicycle car accident that occurred on the Lummi Nation. The accident involved a single bike and motor vehicle that pulled out in front of the rider. Members agreed on the importance of high visibility clothing and lights at all times of the day or night.
8. Sonja Shared 2 inspirational videos with the group the links to them are:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3k8u32J4Hq8>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bEwFvKAJKk>

9. Robin asked for an update on the crossing for the Galbraith Mountain trail system:  
Jason mentioned the ongoing conversations between the City of Bellingham (COB) and the County. The jurisdictions are: Crosswalk is in the purview of the County, and the parking lot is the City's.  
A flashing beacon has been suggested by COB, it was noted that no "pedestrian refuge Island" is planned.  
Jason mentioned enforcing the existing speed limits would be a great solution to many of the issues in this area.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15