

Bike Fitchburg, Inc. Monthly Meeting Minutes

Monday, 10/23/2023, 7:00-8:30pm, Avante Properties Clubhouse

1) Call to order, roll call, welcome, introductions - **Darryl**
7:02

2) Meeting Host Spotlight & Special Guests
Bill, Steve, Mike, Kay, Tony

Guests:

- Pat Horn, just moved into the area this month from Muskego
- Chris Armstrong (Avante Rep) chris@avanteproperties.com
 - Runs Avante Properties
 - Local, small developer
 - Sequoya Commons, project at John Nolen & Lakeside
 - Before any plans were submitted to the city they spent quite a bit of time with the WI Bike Fed
 - TOD in farm field
 - UW Health & Meriter have bought 30 acres in Uptown
 - Grateful that the city is thinking about the central park in the neighborhood
 - Looking to add ~800 more units in Stanley Park
 - Hoping for lots of retail/3rd spaces around central park
 - SmartCode neighborhood—meant to be bike/ped friendly
- Mark Wilkerson (fitchburg for about 1 yr)
- Angie Houston (fitchburg for 29 yrs). Has a few roads she's in town for
- Jackson

3) Approval of past minutes: Sep 25, 2023
Steve reported a typo "pick me up is **now** deemed"

4) Treasurer's report – **Steve**

Checking balance \$170775.23, savings balance \$1802.40.

It was a quiet month financially. We paid \$2.20 to the Postal Service to change our address to Steve's home address because Race Day Events and Griessmeyer Law are moving to Royal Avenue in Madison. That's off Nob Hill Road near the Monona city lane where the Cap City Trail goes under the Beltline. We renewed the bikefitchburg.org domain registration for 2 years for \$46.34. We received the last \$500 that RunSignUp.com owed us for Pick Me Up registrations and donations.

Paul's Pel'meni, in downtown Madison and owned by Paul and Kim Schwoerer, the owners of Oasis Café, is now a Bicycle Benefits participant.

See Steve if you want a doo-rag (\$25).

5) Progress on 2023 goals

a) [Volunteer Recruitment](#)

No lead board member on this initiative.

Tony will check in with BF advisors to see if they would like to step up and take on a project.

b) [Update & Re-ratify the Bike/Ped Plan](#)

No news since last month

c) [Greenway System](#) - **Steve**

No news since last month

d) [BCycle Expansion](#)

No new Phase II stations beyond the current three (B&G Club, McKenzie Center, and Library).
7 more stations to be installed as part of Phase II.

Sr Center, McGaw Park, Dawley Bike Hub, ...

News Flash: Sr Center bikes are in!

Note: BCycle will close for the winter in mid-Dec and the bikes will return in mid-Mar.

e) [Better-Connected Trail System](#) - **Steve**

Lacy Rd from Seminole Hwy to Fitchrona Rd scheduled to re-open Nov 17. Includes on-street bike lanes in both directions and an off-street multi-use path on the north that connects to the newly completed path from [Seminole Hwy to Wayfair St.](#)

Also worth reviewing the \$26M+ (\$17M in fed funding, \$9.4 local) in bike infrastructure projects approved by the Greater Madison MPO, [announced](#) in August. Within the city of Fitchburg: **CTH MM/Rimrock Road (McCoy Road to Beltline Highway) – Reconstruct the street, narrow travel lanes, and add bike lanes. (Total cost: \$2.16 million; \$1.30 million in federal funding; proposed for SFY 2026 construction)**

TAP grant for tunnel under MM to connect Terravessa to new trail leading to Cap City Trail

Pavement resurfaced and bike lanes have been striped from Coho & Cannonball to Seminole Hwy. Previously mapped as hostile, will be low stress now.

f) [Bike Rodeos / Education & Outreach](#) - **Mike**

Nothing planned between now and spring. Did 3 this year.

Per feedback from Mark H / bike committee, need more educators, more coordination with schools. Mike coordinating with Parks & Rec.

Looking into Cycling Without Age. Mtg Thu Nov 2 7:30am Oasis Cafe. Sr oriented programs, CWA, etc. 1/3 of all CWA chapters in the country are in WI. Requires licensed nursing home (which Fitchburg does not have).

DOT has free course every Apr “how to teach safe bicycling to kids” (teaches how to do bike rodeos). Usually on a Sat.

Smart Cycling / Traffic Safety 101, given by League Certified Instructors
LCI Seminar to become an LCI.

Mark Wilkerson interested in helping with this.

6) Other Perpetual Topics

a) **Fitchburg Bicycle Committee – Mark**

1. The Bike committee Reviewed the recommendations from the 2017 Bike Ped Plan at the

October Meeting. Timetable for updating plan in 2024 will be submitted to the City in the next week.

2. Mark will be meeting with Chad Brecklin in 2 weeks regarding strategy for the next steps in the Bike Friendly Journey. Hopefully a work group will form from this meeting with a goal of resubmitting in 2026. The City must step up with more resources/staff time to move forward. We were provided a list of deficiencies which need to be addressed if we are to hold onto our Silver Rating or move to Gold.

Put together a Planning Group in early 2024.

3. Planning group for Senior Cycling meeting Nov. 2. While the Rides for Joe were extremely successful, need more engagement and activities, including Cycling Without Age.

Perhaps Bike Fitchburg takes the lead on this one, vs. the City? More discussion needed here.

4. Bike Education in our Schools. The Bike league pointed out to us in our deficiency statement on the Dashboard that Fitchburg's engagement/activities with the schools was not satisfactory, more needed.

They also suggested we needed another certified trainer.

Mark met with Mike Grady to discuss options on how to expand efforts in all 3 school districts who serve Fitchburg.

b) Policy and/or Public Works update – Steve

Council Mtg tomorrow:

- NTMP update
- No parking in bike lanes
- 30mph across from Kinsale Place. Steve proposed Gordon Fleisch to Terso be 20mph and the rest 25mph. City will do speed study, then post 20mph, then another speed study.
- BF will support Jay Allen's Cheryl Dr speed limit reduction
- Whalen Rd \$830k to Tower Hill & Kids Crossing.

[Walk Audit & Bike Audit toolkits from AARP.](#)

c) Social media update - Steve

Date	10/23	09/26	08/26	07/24	06/26	05/22	04/24	03/27	02/26	01/27
Facebook Forum members	608	598	593	590	581	578	573	570	564	562
Facebook page likes	619	616	612	611	606	604	597	583	569	562
Facebook page followers	697	694	687	681	674	668	655	634	616	618
E-mail addresses to add	0	0	19	34	19	8	8	0	200	200
E-mail list addresses	345	343	294	257	263	246	252	256	89	71
Instagram	285	280	276	271	263	260	255	250	244	240

7) Old business

- a) **Pick Me Up - Mike/Thad/Kay**
Survey Results?

 - b) Bike Fitchburg Board Member Shortage
Steve nominated Mark Wilkerson, Darryl seconded.
Mark: Retired after 40 yrs in high tech industry (program mgr for Intel). Started a leather business in his basement. Moved to Fitchburg because of bike paths. Would like to give back to the community. Came to last month's meeting.

Unanimously voted in.

Kay will contact Mark so she can add him to the website.

 - c) Kyle Stiegert Memorial - **Steve**
Stuck due to city's reluctance to take on more maintenance.
Steve to point out that city accepted \$100k equipment from inventure, which will require maintenance.

 - d) Bike Lane Uprising Bike Light Giveaway
Steve Arnold and Mark Wilkerson to attend Nov "101" mtg and report back
- 8) New business
- a) Register with [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) to become a recognized grantable entity. For example, the WI DNR has [Grants to Friends Groups](#): \$500k each year to fund up to 50% of local projects (\$20k match per year up to 3 years).
We must be a friends group.
 - b) Race Day Events move: any impact on their involvement in Fitchburg (e.g., Festival of Speed)?
They own the FoS and will continue from their new location.
 - c) Meeting locations? Darryl moved we stick with consistent location so people can find us.
- 9) Adjournment
8:45pm

Upcoming Meeting Information

- Nov 27 - Location TBD Steve to find Nov location. Working on Saris.