

Meeting Minutes for **Wednesday, Feb 12, 2020** at 6:00pm

Present: Chad Wade, Gabriel Berlin, AJ Sumahit, Naomi Hersson-Ringskog

Absent: John Harper and Liz Velez

Guests/Advisors: Jessica Ridgeway, Advisor; Rudi from LGBTQ Center (Bus), Sarah Burnaby (Youth Bike), City Council Member Anthony Grice (Bus & Sidewalks), Bob Szeli (walkability/sidewalks), Andi Benites, Cynthia Gilkeson (pedestrian), Erika Norton Urie (Ferry & Walkability), Roosevelt Rhoden, and Richie Rosencrans.

Public Comment Period (30 minutes)

1. Bob Szeli- grew up in the city, grew up biking, wants to give up car, whether as member and volunteer wants to make Newburgh more walkable.
2. Rudi- takes the bus and doesn't have a car, wants to expand bus service hours and places it goes. LGBTQ Center is coordinating a bus campaign. It will entail survey in March and conducting meetings and research.
3. Sarah Burnaby- advocate for youth to bicycle more, need to get a bike lane, tracking device in the bike
4. Cynthia Gilkeson- main issues we want a bike lane, problems with parking on Broadway, advocates for parallel parking on Broadway, reversing is an issue especially if you have a truck, street lights are an issue in the city, some intersections are pitch black, crosswalks should be a priority because vehicles do not obey the rules/ no yielding to pedestrian.
5. Andi Benites- Illumination is very poor in the city. Pedestrian safety is difficult. Crash accident can happen. Better bus service. Bike infrastructure is important for generating youth activities. Idea to have "Summer Streets/Place Streets" on Sundays.
6. Erika Norton Urie- I'm a commuter and take the ferry everyday. Areas of interest first in the ferry expand, to be more of a pedestrian, so many dangerous areas in Newburgh and around the ferry parking lot. It is very dark and no lighting. No lighting at that intersection. Another area about crossing Broadway. Lander street has a lot of children and people speed down that street.
7. Victor Cornelius- as a fundraising specialist, transportation is a strong point in his work. Won important grants in 8-9 municipalities. Interest in Main Street grants and Safe Street. Happy to help with local needs assessment process. Recommends TAC focus on **safety issues** (NYSDOT school) that would require serious upgrades for lighting. **TAC Homework**: Put together a wishlist with one paragraph rationale. DOT likes to see areas that are targeted and have a dire safety record. Traffic violations.

Announcements (Gabe) (5min)

- Candidates for vacancies - **TAC** will make a decision in the next week.
- **Gabe** to follow up to inquire about govt process for keeping TAC informed and weighing opinion (ie muni meters, new development, parking lot pavings)

Topics (75min)

- **Pedestrian/Walkability** (Naomi/Jessica) (30 min)
 - **Crosswalk Taskforce** (Jessica shared crosswalks priorities and how it aligns with paving schedule. George is considering prioritizing Lake Street because of two bridge project.
 - **Water Street Ped Crossing Letter to NYS-** got testimonials from residents/commuters and **NHR** will write a letter to start conversation. Chad/Alie have attempted in the past and NYSDOT is difficult.
 - **Crosswalk Yield Signs** - OC gave six signs to DPW and provided a list of recommended locations: Liberty St & Anne St, Liberty and Benkard St, Gidney St outside of Gidney School,

South Street & Chambers, Water St and Washington. Members and volunteers are encouraged to send to TAC email other sites that comply with regulation (e.g no street lights and existing crosswalk intersection). Members suggested City Terrace and 1st and Lander St & 1st.

- **Codes for Sidewalks**- NHR starting to assemble information for a solution-oriented manual. Perhaps it can be posted on City/TAC website.
- **Creative Crosswalk Report** (Liz & Jessica)- POSTPONED
- **Complete Street Checklist presentation**- Planning Board meeting on February 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. Ask **Ali/Bill** Horton to include it as a site plan proposal. This to be embedded in RFI (Request for Informational) Report.
- **LED Lights & April Streetlights Audit** get a sense of dates and recruit additional residents/volunteers. **Jessica or Carla** has an audit template for us to use.
- **HUD CBDG 2021**- letter drafted and shared with Ellen Fillo/Ali Church. TAC too late in the process to advocate for increased funding for sidewalk repairs from 2020 HUD allocation. So lets participate in upcoming meetings and get involved in the 2021 planning. Damian DePauw is the point of contact for residents.
- **Anthony** wil, if possible, I share list of parking lots and sidewalks as they are not included in the addendum,
- **Bicycle** (Naomi) (10 min)
 - **Mini Bike Plan**- NAR Smart Growth Grant plan to submit by March 15th. HV Greenway pending grant.
 - **Lets Bike HV** - Jessica shared the March 7 event with Scenic Hudson.. Volunteers needed to welcome and greet people, help with distributing TAC info. AJ had idea about distributing bus survey. Keen to get school teachers, administrators, and parents.
 - **Critical Mass Social Bike Ride**, starts in April- need a new leader for the opening season. Start at Blacc Vanilla this season. Alternate with Shelter House. NHR will get dates and ask BV.
 - **Bicycle racks for HV House Parts**- **Chad /Ali** will review and issue verdict and/or comments.
- **Buses** (Gabe) (15 min)
 - **Bus sub-committee**: Pending meeting with Rob Parrington OC Senior Transit Planner. He clarified the contract is three years and not five years. Complicated as it is state sanctioned. TAC has focused mainly on OC Transit and not The Newburgh Beacon Shuttle - its managed by MetroNorth. Leprechaun manages both. Erica Norton Urie sees it as underutilized and underrecognized asset. Schedule needs to be more available and branding.
 - Re Newburgh-Beacon shuttle public awareness. **Gabe**- to approach Leprechaun about magnetic strip and better public schedule with map.
 - **Jessica**- MetroNorth has "meet the conductor" at select station. She will find out if Beacon is on the list.
 - **Jessica**- pitch idea to Rob about March 7th bike event. Get a bus there to learn how to put a bike on and off.
 - Any update on bus Shelters- Bus Taskforce submitted a list of 5-6 sites to the county.
 - Trip Planner- keep promoting. Ridetransitorgange.com
- **Car & Parking** (20 min)
 - Handicapped Parking- Stats and city code (John)- POSTPONED.

- Roundabout versus Circle study for Lake Street and Washington Terrace. It could save the municipality money and create safer conditions.
- Snow Emergency Street Signs- sign is saying when *it is allowed* to park. Its not a prohibitive sign. Chad feels that people just need to learn. Better adoption as there is more information coming out of City Govt. Code Red- reverse 911. On city webpage- emergency notification get a text or phone on snow emergency.
- Stop sign at 1st and Fullerton - caution to the council members do not stop speeding and MUTCD regulations that need to be followed.
- **Ferry** (Naomi) (5 min)
 - Pilot Ferry program for Newburgh Illuminated.
 - Erica Norton Urie shared that ferry system is unlikely to change as its a labor issue. These union jobs (1199) for the ferry cover one shift boat. So having expanded hours will cost more and you may need two shifts.
- **Admin** (Gabe, Ali/Chad)(15 min)
 - **Status on Public Request** - N/A
 - Priorities for 2020: Document is drafted . **Gabe & Naomi** to circulate to TAC members and finalize and share with City Manager.
 - Parking Enforcement- difficult to get data to help make informed decisions.
 - Planned Parenthood Youth Job Service Fair- Feb 26th- great if a TAC member could table at the event.

Tabled or Archived

- *Bike & Scooter Legislation*
- *Bike Repair Program via ESPRI/Utd Way*
- *Bus Incident report form*
- *Bike- PD Surplus to be donated to Motorcyclopedia/ Blacc Vanilla*