

**COUNCIL OF SAN BENITO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

June 5, 2009

10:00 AM

FINAL MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Art Bliss, Barbara Nicoara, Cathy L. Buck, Mary Paxton, Richard Maddux, Gifford Swanson, Jeanne Melius, and Karen Rogers

STAFF PRESENT:

Lisa Rheinheimer, Executive Director; Veronica Lezama, Transportation Planner; Monica Gomez, Secretary

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Gifford Swanson called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Melius presented a \$200 check to the Council of Governments from the Childhood Injury Prevention to help with the promotion of Bike Week.

Ms. Melius announced that the San Benito County Child Injury Prevention committee is hosting the 16th annual Kids at the Park June 24, 2009 from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Dunne Park.

Ms. Rheinheimer announced that the Leadership San Benito Class of 2009 is hosting a Wag n' Walk 5K Family Fun Run and Walk June 13, 2009 at the Graniterock Southside Sand and Gravel Quarry at 5632 Airline Hwy. The 5K starts at 9 a.m. and is open to two-legged participants. All proceeds benefit Pet Friends.

Mr. Maddux announced that the Hollister Downtown Association's first summer movie series began last Thursday and was very successful with a crowd of over 400 showing up. The series is being held at the grassy spot at the intersection of Fourth and San Benito streets and will be running for a total of 14 weeks.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. APPROVE Meeting Minutes dated March 6, 2009 – Gomez

The minutes were pulled for discussion.

Ms. Buck questioned if Gifford Swanson was present because she didn't believe she would've called the meeting to order and made motions on several items if she was chairing the meeting. There were also two misspelled words in the minutes.

Ms. Rheinheimer asked to continue the minutes to the next agenda and staff will make the noted corrections.

REGULAR AGENDA:

2. RECEIVE and **COMMENT** on the Draft San Benito County Bikeway and Pedestrian Master Plan – Lezama

Ms. Lezama presented the Draft San Benito County Bikeway and Pedestrian Master Plan and solicited comments from the Committee.

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee provided the following comments:

1. Within each section redefine acronyms
2. Add the existing pedestrian undercross at 4th Street between West Street and Monterey Street in Hollister to existing pedestrian facilities – recommend revamping the undercross – The Committee expressed that the San Benito County Courthouse will be constructed on a vacant lot located on the north side of Fourth Street. The pedestrian undercross will be instrumental in addressing pedestrian travel from the District Attorneys office & probation departments (south of Fourth Street) to the Courthouse.
3. Insert tabs to separate chapters, appendix, etc.
4. Identify Riverside Park - see City of Hollister map
5. Union Road Bridge Class II Bike Lanes - replacing existing bridge – bridge located east of Cienega Road
6. San Juan Road Bridge – west of Graf Road- Identify potential solutions to accommodate pedestrian travel over the bridge
7. What projects reduce the most Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) – green house gasses, address on the environmental document
8. Page 2-8 - Delete “Transportation” from Objective 1-3
9. Include discussion on Complete Streets – AB 1358

Ms. Lezama noted that the public comment period for the Draft San Benito County Bikeway and Pedestrian Master Plan closes July 10, 2009

The Committee commended Ms. Lezama on the Power-Point presentation she provided.

3. RECEIVE and COMMENT on the Draft Letter to Businesses Addressing Bicycle Parking – Lezama

The Committee directed staff to draft a letter to local businesses addressing the need for bike parking facilities at their business, and if a biking facility is already in place, request that businesses provide the location of the facilities so that staff may promote during Bike Week.

Committee’s comments:

1. Recommended “Slot” bicycle racks
2. Recommended that staff provide businesses with a list of contractors in SBC that can assist businesses install the bicycle racks
3. Include as an attachment to the letter the City of Hollister’s Bicycle Parking Standards
4. The Committee suggested that staff prepare a packet of information that can be made available to businesses that are interested in providing bicycle parking. This information could be made available at the Council of Governments office and on its website.

5. The Committee recommended that businesses that install bicycle racks be recognized in the Bike Week brochure.
6. The Committee suggested that the letter not be mailed to downtown Hollister business since the downtown has a specific Downtown Plan for pedestrian and bicycle travel.
7. The committee suggested that an initial letter with a survey should be sent followed by a second letter that will provide more implementation specific information.
8. Staff will revise the letter and prepare a survey for the September meeting

Ms. Rheinheimer stated that staff will review the Committees comments and also develop a survey for the next meeting.

4. RECEIVE 2009 Bike Week Participation Report – Lezama

Ms. Lezama provided an update regarding Bike Week 2009, which took place during the week of May 10-16, 2009. Bike to School Day and Bike to Work Day took place Thursday, May 14, 2009.

Ms. Lezama noted that 9 of the Hollister School District schools participated in the event in addition to San Andreas Continuation High School. There were over 500 students that participated in Bike to School Day and 12 bicycles were raffled at these schools. Commuters also rode their bicycle to work and were rewarded with free breakfast at the Briggs Lawn.

There was discussion about possible ideas to encourage participation from local businesses, City, and County offices at next year's event.

Upon a motion duly made by Cathy Buck, and seconded by Jeanne Melius, the Committee voted to adjourn the BPAC meeting.

ADJOURN TO MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2009 AT 10:00 a.m.