



FARMINGTON PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

7:00 p.m.

Minutes - DRAFT

DECEMBER 14, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:03 pm by Susan Arlin

2. ROLL CALL

Present:

Susan Arlin

Tim Prince

Sue Lover

Kevin Christiansen

Joe VanDerZanden

Bill Gesaman

Maria Taylor

Chris Weber

Absent:

Brent Bartman

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Motion to approve by Tim and supported by Bill, unanimously approved

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. MEETING MINUTES, NOVEMBER 9, 2022 – Maria moved to approve and supported by Sue, approved unanimously

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. ONE PAGER UPDATE – no updates at this time

b. 9 MILE PATHWAY UPDATE – Chris shared that there is a Farmington Press story on the 9 Mile Pathway coming soon. Chris reviewed the 9 Mile Corridor update presentation from OHM and five stage feasibility study planned to be completed by June 2023. Committee discussed the proposed trail route through the Farmington area and possible other suggestions that could be made and potential trail connections. Planned for members to drive 9 Mile Rd between Inkster and Farmington Rd. and surrounding area to consider suggestions for the route to discuss at the next meeting to determine feedback and suggestions. Discussed the possibility of having places to park bikes to visit places in downtown Farmington and the possible effects of other projects influencing choice of the route through Farmington.

c. SEMCOG BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MOBILITY

Bill updated that he spoke with Brian P. with SEMCOG, says Brian sounded excited about the Pathways Committee's work, the Farmington Rd. streetscape, and was interested in meeting with the Pathways Committee to learn about ideas and offer support, perhaps include DDA in the meeting. As SEMCOG prefers a daytime weekday meeting, it was decided that Bill will respond with suggestion of

the usual May meeting's date, moved to earlier that day, and that the committee is open to other dates.

- Sue shared she found that SEMCA has a Bicycle safety team which meets quarterly, next meeting is Feb 2 in Lansing, and found they have a grant for use for related projects.

-It was discussed that Farmington has an old complete streets ordinance proposal that was never acted on from around 2013 and could be pursued to aid in obtaining grant money for development.

d. CROSSWALK AT KRAZY KRAB ON GRAND RIVER UPDATE

Kevin – OHM shared they have engaged with MDOT, which does not believe the use of a rapid flashing beacon for this crossing is warranted. OHM anticipates a hearing sometime in January receiving acceptance of the concept of adding this crosswalk. At that time they would move forward with making a detailed plan to submit to MDOT, which would require a topographical review. OHM recommended coordinating potential improvements and tying together such as MTC sidewalk work along with this crosswalk, but they're looking at possibly a crosswalk at School Street or down by the Sidecar Slider Bar instead. Pathways Committee finds there is a lack of access to safely cross Grand River for a long distance between Grove St. all the way to Power with no crosswalks that whole distance while School St. is too close to the Grove St. crossing to do much to improve safety.

The committee was in agreement that the School Street crossing is not a suitable location, and an alternative further east should be considered such as Village Commons, Farmington Place, Mayfield, or in combination with one of these. Committee also discussed the safety benefit of combining additional crosswalks with slowing traffic, road diet and bike lanes, as is already under consideration as part of the Grand River Corridor Project.

e. COMMUNITY INPUT ON EXISTING AND ADDITIONAL PROJECTS

Update forthcoming but not ready for this meeting.

f. SHIAWASSEE ROAD CAR COUNTER UPDATE

Brent not present to address

g. FARMINGTON ROAD STREETScape UPDATE

Kevin says will be drivable by the end of the month. Sidewalk is making good progress. Finishing details will wait until Spring to be completed.

h. MAXFIELD TRAINING CENTER DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Kevin – halfway through the PUD process – preliminary plan is submitted, going through negotiations with the developer and will be going to City Council in early 2023 – Jan or Feb. The hope is to begin site remediation by the Summer.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. ANY NEW CITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS?

i. Proposed additional paving to finish Alta Loma, paving of Wilmarth between Alta Loma and Schulte, Cass Street between Alta Loma and Fleming in 2023. Chris – we may want to check the areas for any sidewalk issues or such to fix at the time, to begin in Fall of 2023 or Spring 2024.

ii. Possible concrete patching on Oakland and Drake Heights in 2023

iii. Gill end replacements and concrete patching in 2024

iv. Sidewalk in Bel-Aire, Lakeway, Prospect, Mooney, Valleyview and work order areas throughout City in 2023

v. Drake and 9 Mile

Chris – street storm drain keeps flooding at this locations, pipes are deteriorating and culvert work necessary, would be a good time to do any work to accommodate the 9 mile pathway project at that location.

b. ANY NEW TARGET AREAS?

- i. Mirror and/or signage near GLP building
Blind drive if exiting onto Grand River, dangerous for pedestrians. Possible fixes include adding mirror(s) for drivers and pedestrians to see around the corner, closing the area to traffic but there are parking spots that must be accessed, or make it entry only/one way. Pathways Committee suggesting making it one way/entry only to increase safety of pedestrians on the sidewalk.
- ii. Sidewalk flag by Masonic Temple
Deteriorating flag, informed Chuck and he's now planning to fix it when doing sidewalks next year.
- iii. Another sidewalk flag reported with problems near Nail Bytes on south side of Grand River, plan to look at existing conditions and repairing.
- iv. Suggesting stop signs both ways on Gill Rd at Arundel to slow down traffic due to unsafe traffic speeds.
- v. Discussed that cars often go the wrong way in the one-way portion of the alley behind Cowley's and suggested improving signage to make more visible, that the current sign may be too high and too far back for drivers to see in time, suggested putting on the wall of the building.
- vi. DDA is suggesting a pathway between Avalon – the building that is becoming a bookstore in the alley north of Grand River downtown – and the shops south - Apothecary Coffee and MiMosa. Considering a painted path to visually connect the businesses and draw pedestrians up that route.

In February Pathways Committee will be presenting on its activities to City Council. Tim volunteered to do the presentation and it was decided that Brent would assist him.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT

- Sue asked about progress with the first social media post. Maria shared she sent it to Melissa, but Chris said Melissa was unaware of receiving it. Maria will follow up to get it posted.

-Clarification on the status of Safe Routes to School – next step is for Chris to send out letters to the neighborhood about interest of sidewalk routes since the first route option was rejected by the affected homeowners.

- Update on Pathways positions. Tim and Sue agreed to continue. Susan has a conflict and is unable to continue so there will be an open position on the committee. Discussed considering those that had previously expressed interest in being on the committee, both with the original applications and those that have expressed interest since then. January Pathways meeting will include filling officer positions for the new year.

-Farmington Hills city rep coming to future meeting discussed, decided to suggest they come to the February meeting to provide more lead time and considering there is business of filling positions on the committee to cover at the January meeting.

-Pocket Park being planned next to Sipp in what had formerly been a driveway and parking, trying to raise money for the creation of the pocket park.

9. ADJOURNMENT Adjourned at 9:17 pm – moved by Sue and supported by Bill

Next meeting: January 11, 2023