



FARMINGTON PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

AUGUST 14, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER 6:03 pm

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Tim Prince, Joe VanDerZanden, Maria Taylor, Heather Davies

Absent: Jamie Palmisano, Chris Weber, Sue Lover, Bill Gessaman

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve by Maria and supported by Heather, approved unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. MEETING MINUTES, JULY 10, 2024

Motion to approve by Maria and supported by Heather, approved unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. GRAND RIVER AND FARMINGTON CROSSROAD DISCUSSION AND WALKING TOUR

The walking audit route for the day was discussed, planning to identify and prioritize locations along Grand River and the downtown area that could benefit from additional crosswalks to increase pedestrian safety and walkability, evaluate viability for crosswalks given MDOT criteria, and identify additional pathways related issues and project ideas on the walking route.

It was decided to begin the walk on Grand River going west until at least the intersection with Shiawassee and Locust streets then include some of Grand River east of Grand River and some of Farmington Rd.

The walking assessment that followed the meeting included Grand River between Shiawassee/Locust St. to Power, and Farmington Rd. between Grand River and Freedom Rd.

Heather marked identified locations for possible crosswalks on a map during the walk as well as other locations with issues to discuss at the next meeting.

Clare Norgard, a photographer, came along to take photos for the city of the Pathways Committee on the walk.

Committee members discussed planning future walks to cover the rest of Grand River. Due to limited time to identify areas to include in the upcoming master plan updates, committee members discussed planning to walk the other sections of Grand River on their own to report and discuss at the September meeting.

The walking audit immediately followed adjournment of the meeting.

b. MASTER PLAN PROJECTS LIST

The forming of a Master Plan Steering Committee was discussed, including that Tim had already expressed interest in joining and the benefit of having a Pathways Committee member participating to have input. The steering committee has yet to be formed.

Committee members identified several projects to consider for inclusion in the upcoming updated master plans including:

- The Farmington portion of the 9 Mile Non-motorized Pathway Project
- Adding additional crosswalks to Grand River and Farmington Rd.
- Pump track project
- McGee Hill Bridge and adjoining park/pathway to Heritage Park
- The planned art park/pathway to the Hillside Townes condos and upcoming Mason's Corner Park.
- It was also suggested that shade be added to existing and future parks such as the addition of awnings, structures or artistic installations that could also provide shade.
- Community survey of interests in proposed projects and community interests and ideas.
- Joe suggested that the Project One Pagers be reviewed at the next meeting to consider for suggested inclusion in the master plan updates.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. ANY NEW TARGET AREAS?

Discussed a concern identified by Kevin Parkins, former Pathways Committee member and City Council member, that trees are blocking drivers from seeing the crosswalk signs for the crosswalk on Farmington Rd. by the CVS. Committee members planned to assess this on the walking audit.

Maria reported she received a citizen comment via email identifying the needs for a crosswalk near the Sidecar Slider Bar due to frequent unsafe jaywalking in that area. The identified project of adding a crosswalk near the Crazy Krab would help address this need.

Maria shared that the bicentennial mural/pedestrian corridor between Fresh Thyme and the My Salon is scheduled to have a grand opening event on 9/25 around 5:30 or 6 pm. Work has yet to begin but murals and string lights are scheduled to be installed before the opening on 9/25. She shared that it is scheduled to coincide with a local mayors' organization (SOCMA) dinner event to draw the attention of attendants to the event and project.

b. ANY NEW CITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS?

None discussed.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT

None

9. ADJOURNMENT 6:21 pm.

Next meeting: SEPTEMBER 11, 2024