

April Minutes for Starkville in Motion  
Grant Kirker, Secretary

A representative from the Starkville beautification society presented a short summary of what they do. The Starkville beautification society is a volunteer organization that aims to improve the overall aesthetic qualities of Starkville in order to make it a more attractive destination for tourists and potential residents of the area. Many of the improvements that they would suggest would also mean improvements to Starkville's walkability and infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists i.e. sidewalk improvement, benches, crosswalks. He also said that they would be interested in collaboration with SIM in the future.

Treasurer's report: \$1100 in the bank, and 120 members (we also have close to 250 on our email list-server)

Molly Hartzog is recovering and doing well since her accident several weeks ago. She sent a note thanking SIM members for contributions to her recovery costs. She's going to use the funds, in part, to help replace her broken bike, and appreciated our warm wishes and support. She'll be home for the summer recovering and undergoing surgery and will return to MSU this fall.

Devon presented a PowerPoint of the top 10 sidewalk improvements needed in and around Starkville. Those present voted to prioritize the projects on the list. The next work will be to develop cost estimates for each project, determine responsibility for each locale (e.g., MSU, city of Starkville, county), to publicize the top ten sidewalk concerns, and to advocate for solutions to the problems raised. Please consider helping with this effort across the summer or this fall. Jeremy Murdock is tallying the results, watch for an announcement soon.

The SIM safety brochure is finished and will be distributed to students starting Summer 1 term in collaboration with the office of the Dean of Students. Copies of the brochure, which lists rules for sharing the road for motorists and safety suggestions for walkers and cyclists, along with SIM's contact info, will be distributed to new students, through the office of Parking Services, and so forth. Thanks are due to Dean White for his assistance.

The budget for Safe Routes to School's Safety Education campaign has been approved by the City. SIM will be helping to organize two safety summer camps and helping to organize another walk to school day and other outreach programs with the schools this fall. The budget includes hiring folks to lead these efforts. Watch for opportunities to get involved.

Kate Fabel hosted a successful membership drive for SIM on Super Bulldog weekend which resulted in roughly 25 new members, including some lifetime members, some donations, and contributions to purchase several "feet of sidewalk." Congratulations Kate and the other volunteers on a job well done.

No update on Lynn Lane constructon. The Education and Outreach budget was approved by the City of Starkville, and a coordinator will be hired by the end of the summer to lead the development of our PR campaign.

This is my last post as Secretary of SIM, I am graduating on Friday and have accepted a post-doc in south Miss. I hope to be able to collaborate with SIM in the near future and have thoroughly enjoyed the experience. SIM is currently looking for a new secretary to keep up with minutes. Please contact Devon Brenner at [devon@ra.msstate.edu](mailto:devon@ra.msstate.edu) if you're interested/willing.