

Starkville In Motion
Minutes
September 11, 2006

University Drive: Update At the Monday meeting, SIM members spent some time discussing the University Drive Bike Lane issue. Matt gave a history. The project began more than a year ago. After measuring it was determined that the road is only wide enough for bike lanes, traffic, and parking on one side. After garnering support from constituents along the route, the current design was completed about a year ago. Recently the Catholic Church petitioned the Board of Aldermen for an exception to allow parking in the lane. As a group, SIM is worried about this exception in terms of safety and precedent setting. Patrik proposed opening dialogue with the Church and perhaps the Starkville Central Neighborhood Foundation as a mediator. Joe proposed that we create a Liaison Committee of Patrik, Charlotte, and Jimmy, and this was seconded and approved. The Board met the day after our meeting. Bill Webb said the only solution he can see is moving parking from the south side of the street to the north side of the street, which may or may not meet everyone's needs, and requested more time to follow up. The Mayor asked Bill Webb to bring another proposal in October. Alderman Perkins asked if parties from SIM and the Catholic Church would like to make a statement. Patrik offered to enter into communication with the Church. Austin Bollard (sp?) said that he was willing to collaborate with SIM and the city to come to a compromise, but only if no parking was actually lost in the compromise. Mr. Webb, Patrik, and Mr. Bollard met briefly after the meeting to review maps and discuss plans.

Treasurer's/Membership Report: \$700 in our account. We have not yet recouped all of our investment in t-shirts. T-shirts cost \$11.00 and many sizes are available. We have 90 members or so (including 2 people per family). 20 people have renewed in '06. We have 7 new members.

Outreach: Ron and Kathy authored a story on bicycling and hiking opportunities in our community in the most recent Reflector (campus paper).

Lynn Lane: Ron's doing some following up with MDOT regarding the grant. An answer is expected in early October.

Safe Routes to School: The MDOT grant application will be due December 1st. Lois (the chair) will need help with getting letters of recommendation, mapping routes to school and tallying walkers/bus riders/car spoolers etc. Gunnar is helping with some of the mapping.

Greensboro/Whitfield Bike Lanes: The committees made some contact with several stakeholders. There's room to paint lanes every where except about a 150-200 foot stretch near Raymond St. Patrik is working with Bill Webb to propose a solution to that narrow area. However, the committee is waiting to see what happens with University Drive before moving much further. Meantime, 5 to 10 kids are riding their bikes to school, every day, along that route (in the street). The need for lanes there is great.

501c(3) Non-Profit Status: The tax and incorporation paperwork proves to be beyond us. Charlotte proposed, and it was approved, that we spend some treasury funds to hire a lawyer and get this done. Some grant opportunities have arisen we can't apply for until this paperwork is done. There may be some fees to the state as well, and we authorized

payment of those.

Bike/Walk Mississippi: If there's interest, we might do this. See separate email.

Sidewalk Committee: Thanks in part to pressure from/suggestions by the sidewalk committee (Randall and Whitney mostly) improvements at McKee park that improve accessibility and fixes to sidewalks are complete. Randall wrote a press release on this but Starkville Daily did not run it. The new (approved) city budget includes \$50,000 for sidewalk repairs and ADA compliance. Whitney, who is on the sidewalk committee, is also on the city's Commission on Disabilities. That Commission will help the city set priorities for spending the allocation. In the meantime, the sidewalk committee will be collaborating for the next few months with Safe Routes to School.

Slate of Officers: As specified in our by-laws, the board proposed a slate of officers. Others are welcome to nominate themselves or others for any of the positions. During October's meeting, we will take any additional nominations from the floor.

The proposed slate of officers for 2007 is:

President: Jimmy Richardson

VP Joe Fratesi

Treasurer Charlotte Fuquay

Secretary Devon Brenner

Outreach Kathy Jacobs

Board: Ron Cossman, Matt Cox, Patrik Nordin, and Grant Kirker

Committee Chairs also serve on the leadership team including: Lois Connington, Robert McMillen, Randall McMillen, Whitney Hilton