Scenic Bikeway Committee meeting minutes

January 24th, 2018

OPRD HQ 9:30- 2:30 pm

**Participants:**

Bonnie Lippitt

Richard Meyers

Lauralee Svendsgaard

Brian Worley

Michael Black

Pat Moran

Alison Graves

Andrew Grossman (serving as proxy for Scott Bricker)

Natalie Inouye

OPRD Staff:

Alex Phillips

Jan Hunt

Nicole Sprecher

**Summary of action items:**

* Natalie will tell the group of cyclists in Albany area, about the possible re-route to get their feedback on the idea and ask if they would like to work with OPRD on bringing the suggestion to the trail managers.
* Alex will send out location for the Feb. commission meeting.
* Alex will send a letter to proponents on the anniversary of their designation, thanking them.
* Richard, Natalie, Lauralee, Brian and Alex will work on the strategic plans action items so they are ready for the April meeting when members can pick which items to be the lead on.

**Summary of motions:**

* Oct. 12 meeting minutes approved

**Upcoming meetings:**

* April 10th, OPR HQ in Salem, 9:30 to 2:30
* September 18th OPR HQ in Salem, 9:30 to 2:30
* November 6th OPR HQ in Salem, 9:30 to 2:30

**Full Meeting Minutes**

Review of Oct. 12th 2017 meeting minutes

Bonnie moved that the minutes are approved, seconded by Alison, motioned passed.

Committee Member Agreement discussion:

Members suggested changes to the draft to reflect that:

* meeting participation and voting can be via the phone
* Clarification that proxies cannot vote. Citizen reps cannot send proxies.
* The role of the committee is *advisory* committee,
* Clarify that members are free to talk about committee work and votes, which is a matter of public record, but do not have the authority to announce that OPRD’s decision to designate or recommendations or to announce department recommendations or designations. Committee can say something more along the lines that it was forwarded to OPRD.
* Alex will revise the document and bring to the April meeting for final approval and signature.

**Designated & Proposed Bikeways- Updates presented by Alex**

* Looking at rerouting the WV Scenic Bikeway, we would reroute it from River Road to the new Minto Brown bridge, and this is a good time to discuss this because the city is reworking the master plan for the city. There is an issue with the park being so new that the city wants the dust to settle before anything happens. In the meantime, looking at a very slight reroute at highway 34.
* **Action item:** Natalie Will tell the group of cyclists around Albany, about the possible re-route to get their feedback on the idea and ask if they would like to work with OPRD on bringing the suggestion to the trail managers.
* Covered Bridges reroute: the swinging bridge will be out of commission for several years, there is going to be a small reroute which is already in place.
* Crooked River Canyon is on the agenda for the commission on February 22nd, it will be in Lake Oswego.
* Grande Tour – Proponent group was faltering due to original proponents moving on to other projects, but they now found new and energized proponents. There are two new volunteer proponents.
* Alison: Tualatin Scenic Bikeway is getting a grant for a tourism committee and the first meeting is in February.

**Committee members riding bikeway event rides**

There is discussion of committee members riding the event rides in an official capacity to connect with the proponent, see the route and connect with riders to hear feedback and ideas. Riding in official capacity is encouraged by OPRD. Prior approval is needed for travel reimbursement.

**Travel Oregon Update presented by Andrew**

* Interested in developing a Memo of Understanding (MOU) with OPRD and Travel Oregon. Travel Oregon sees their role as marketing and promotion. Hoping for a new map by late March, early April. Assets are available to promote the Oregon Scenic Bikeways.
* Andrew distributed the brand new bikeway patches. The patches will be given out at Travel Oregon bike events, businesses can sell them, proponents can hand them out. Trade shows, summits, etc.
* Travel Oregon is the lead for Oregon Scenic Bikeway workshops and manage the Bike Friendly Business program.

**Strategic Plan Revision**

Alex’s summary of what riders want: Good experiences, predictable conditions, and welcomed by communities

Discussion: Concerns with just tailoring the program vision with only what the *visitor* wants, also need to offer social and economic benefit

Strategic Plan Draft Action Items:

* **Approach OPRD management on fully formalizing the sustainability and department vision of the program.**
* Referencing & researching older documents such as SCORP for support reasons of the existence of the bikeway program
* Align with planning cycles of the partners (ODOT, Travel Oregon and Cycle Oregon)
* **Develop MOUs with partners that outline roles and responsibilities**
* **Maintaining or improving current conditions– physical infrastructure**
* **Road improvements on existing bikeways** bybuilding relationships with ODOT and OPBAC
* Tap into ODOT goal to use money to do expansion of shoulders on route, work towards improvements
* Federal Land Access Program and Federal Land Transportation program could be a resource
* work with our proponent groups on the county/city transportation plan & existing bikeways
* Interact with (and encourage proponents to interact with) Area Commissions on Transportation
  + Templates and funding informational kiosks, bike stations/hubs (possibly tap into Cycle Oregon grants)
* Workshop after designation framed around a cyclist point of view of wanting Good experiences, predictable conditions, and being welcomed by communities. Could include
* Annual process for proponents to check in on Bike Friendly Businesses that can include:
  + Life after designation session that recruits new bike friendly business
  + Looks at how a cyclist experiences route
* Look at framework for accepting applications. Develop recommendation to OPRD on accepting new applications. Could include:
* Opening specific areas such as SE Oregon, or the Coast.
* How much can we sustain until the program begins to suffer? There is strategy in keeping it realistic, and on a smaller scale.
* How we sustain program over time including the five year reviews
* Track over time certain items to find commonalities over multiple bikeways, such as safety. Data collected can be used with ODOT and other agencies.
  + Possibly use annual review to capture info
* Revise annual review to capture more info while still making it easy and understandable for the proponents. Possibly put form online
* Keep websites are up to date (Travel Oregon.com, Oregonscenicbikeways.org and ridewithgps.com)
* Ten year anniversary summary
* Include history
* Include accomplishments

**Action Item:** Richard, Natalie, Lauralee, Brian and Alex will work on the strategic plans action items so they are ready for the April meeting when members can pick which items to be the lead on.

**Upcoming meetings:**

* April 10th, OPR HQ in Salem, 9:30 to 2:30
* September 18th OPR HQ in Salem, 9:30 to 2:30
* November 6th OPR HQ in Salem, 9:30 to 2:30

**Potential agenda items for April**

* Complete strategic plan
* Update from FHWA in regards to FLAP grant
* Planning for proponent conference – discussion on agenda presentations
* A summary of the annual reviews submitted by proponents capturing any trends and accomplishments.

Action item: At the request of the committee Alex will send full annual reports

**Five Year Review- Grande Tour June 26-29**

Travel day Tuesday June 26th. Van pool Salem to La Grande

Meet with proponent group morning of June 27th

Will pick certain stretches of the 134 mile route to ride

Travel back Friday June 29th

Tentatively interested in attending: Alison, Lauralee, Natalie, Richard, Brian

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm