

Notes from Nov. 12, 2007 ECC Meeting

Present: 30 folks, by far our best turnout ever! (Unfortunately, I don't think we got contact info for many of the new people.)

Reports

Robin Schafer represented ECC at the Aldermanic finance committee meeting in October, where she spoke in favor of expanding the free trolley (really bus) service. She asked people to call Finance Committee Chair Sergio Rodriguez at 387.3888 to express our support.

Currently the future of this program is uncertain.

Committee Reports

New Haven Bike Plan (Tom Harned, chair). Tom passed around a list for people to sign up to attend meetings, which will be held the last Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in a meeting room at City Hall. The goal is to come up with recommendations for a comprehensive bike plan for the city.

Accreditation Committee (Hunter Smith, chair). Hunter is pursuing filing for the LAB (League of American Bicyclists) accreditation as a Bike Friendly City, probably at one of the lower designations

Safety Committee (Rob Rocke, chair). No report, as Rob was not present. (Is this the first meeting Rob has missed?!)

Incorporation Committee (Robin Schafer, chair). This committee's report was the survey, which was discussed later.

New Haven Bike Collective.

Chris Shirley wants to set up a program to teach kids to fix bikes, get those bikes on the road, and build community. Community activist Angelo Reyes is making space available in Fair Haven. Chris has located 200 bikes, but needs help with transportation to bring them to Fair Haven.

BEEP Revival Report

Paul Hammer announced he is reviving his former non-profit, Bicycle Education and Enrichment Program, adding another E for Entrepreneurship, which will target inner city youth and start with a bike-powered food delivery business called "Pedal for Peas." He passed around a sign-up sheet for those interested in helping.

Central Ct. Bicycle Alliance (www.wecycle.org)

Sandy Fry came to speak to us about the efforts to transform a project she staffed out of the Central Connecticut Council of Governments into a free-standing non-profit. Notes

were taken on her specific recommendations to be reviewed by the incorporation committee and other interested parties.

She also spoke about their efforts to build Bike to Work Day in Hartford into a large, sustainable event. Points she made: be consistent about time and location; put a lot of info on the website; have bike buddies to help newbies with routes and other info; have giveaways and sign people up for the annual bike raffle; free t-shirts at April BTW Day boosted attendance; they take nominations and declare an annual Super Commuter.

Survey

Meleah reported that we got 183 responses to the bike survey, and she passed out a graph of how people responded to each question (more than 70 percent favor keeping the name Elm City Cycling).

Grant

Melinda said we might be able to get a mayor's discretionary grant of up to \$5,000 to do capacity building, which would cover basically everything we do. Those who are interested in coming up with a draft of a proposal can contact her (melinda.tuhus@gmail.com) and do some brainstorming before the next meeting.

Bike To Work Day

ECC and Koffee on Orange will be hosting our last BTW Day of the year on Friday, Nov. 16, from 7:30-9:30 a.m. at Pitkin Plaza next to Koffee (141 Orange St.). Come one, come all, and bring your friends!