

**MINUTES
CARBONDALE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

Mayor Dan Richardson called the Board of Trustees Work Session to order on February 19, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall meeting room.

ROLL CALL:

The following members were present for roll call:

Mayor
Trustees

Dan Richardson
Marty Silverstein
Lani Kitching
Erica Sparhawk
Ben Bohmfalk
Luis Yllanes
Heather Henry

Staff Present
Town Manager
Town Clerk

Jay Harrington
Cathy Derby

MOBILITY DISCUSSION

Jason White of RFTA gave a brief overview of their bus system. The BRT is the main station in Carbondale. They re-organized the local route which became the circulator bus. If the Town would like to change the core route there would probably be an additional cost to the Town.

Mayor Richardson stated there are three topics he would like addressed tonight: access to transportation, ways to reduce pollution and vehicle impacts (congestion).

Ron Kokish, Co-Chair Niki Delson and Co-Chair Judie Blanchard, representing the Carbondale Age Friendly Community Initiative, stated that Carbondale seniors don't have much of a voice. The purpose of the Initiative is to give seniors a voice in the community, find ways to help one another, make community contributions, etc.

The Initiative identified the following mobility problems for seniors: sidewalk clearance/interference, bike/pedestrian/auto conflicts, lack of benches in town, unsafe intersections, and lack of accessibility to the circulator bus.

Darryl Fuller, Chair of the Bike/Pedestrian/Trails Commission stated that different use groups have different needs. If you make trails, sidewalks and streets safe for bikers they become safe for pedestrians as well. The Commission has identified priority corridors designed to be multi-modal.

WECYCLE

Mirte Mallory and Kellyn Wardell of WeCycle gave an overview of the WeCycle program and the following points were made:

- The bike share program is designed to be a first and last mile connector
- The program offers flexibility
- The main goals are to reduce congestion and pollution
- They serve a larger demographic, more inclusive of different types of bikers, including the Latino community
- It's not a bike rental company, most trips are 30 minutes
- Carbondale is the most requested location for expansion – they did an initial scoping and feasibility study and they believe Carbondale should have 25-27 docking stations
- They have a staff that redistributes the bikes to various stations
- 90% of WeCyclers own a bike

RFTA

RFTA employee Jason White gave an overview of the Para Transit Program Garfield County Traveler. The system is funded by Garfield County and RFTA. It's an on demand transportation system which comes to your door. You have to qualify and the system is not as flexible as the circulator bus. According to Jason, the vans are "spread thin".

Nicolette Toussaint addressed sidewalk clearance/interference. She stated in the past she has contracted to have her sidewalk cleared of snow and no one shows up. She asked if the Town could organize a registry of people who clear sidewalks. She also told the Board that she searched the Town's website for information on senior services and the website is void of information. Trustee Sparhawk asked if Town staff can shovel sidewalks and bill the residents. Jay responded that we only have a staff of four.

Discussion ensued on the circulator bus.

Trustee Henry asked if RFTA can provide a baseline for demand for Travelers and the circulator bus. Yes, RFTA will provide data.

Trustee Silverstein stated that he would like to change the circulator bus route. He suggested eliminating the downtown stops and adding stops on Highway 133. Jay noted that there are not many safe places for a bus to stop on Highway 133 and constructing new bus stops is extremely expensive. The Board asked how do we test the market, should we do a needs survey?

BIKE/PEDESTRIAN/TRAILS COMMISSION

The Board had a check-in with the Bike/Pedestrian/Trails Commission (B/P/T). The following key points were made:

- They believe WeCycle will have an environmental impact reduction by getting people out of their cars; it fits who we are as a Town
- Mayor Richardson would like the B/P/T to make a formal recommendation on bringing WeCycle to Carbondale
- B/P/T is working on the following tasks: a handbook which consolidates their work flow, addressing walkability issues that will support pedestrians and seniors, and they are re-applying for Bicycle Friendly Community status

Niki addressed the mobility problems identified by the Carbondale Age Friendly Community Initiative.

Sidewalk clearance/interference/encroachment

Mobility on 8th Street is very problematic. She has experienced the following: cars parking on the sidewalk, grass, fences, cars and tree branches encroaching on the sidewalks, unshoveled sidewalks and sidewalks that end and there is nowhere to go.

The seniors at Crystal Meadows have problems with bikes riding on the sidewalks.

The seniors would like benches installed on the Cowen to ditch trail.

The lack of a sidewalk on Cowen Dr. is problematic; it forces people in to the road.

Mayor Richardson asked if it would be helpful to add age-friendly routes to the Bike/Pedestrian Priority Corridor Map.


Niki asked if citizens can report problems on the Town's website.

The Board would like ideas on how to get information to cars, bikers and pedestrians concerning conflict and courtesy. Trustee Sparhawk stated that CLEER may be able to help with the education component for etiquette.

ADJOURNMENT

The February 19, 2019, work session adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held on February 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED



Dan Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cathy Derby, Town Clerk