Hamilton Cycling Committee
Monthly Meeting

Time: 5:00pm
Date: January 4, 2006
Place: Hamilton City Hall, Room 264

Attendance:
Daryl Bender (Chair), Tarquin Adams, Al Horzelenberg, Michael Donaldson, Brad Tyleman, Matt Chamberlain-Thompson, Bob Brown, Brian Applebee-Staff, Sarah Veale, Rob Wazny, Greg Ellis, Chris Gainham, Thom Oomman

1. Approval of minutes
   a. Moved to accept minutes with a change in language regarding the Red Creek Trail Plan (changed to Plan Diagram), by Al Horzelenberg.
   b. Seconded by Bob Brown
   c. Approved by the committee as a whole.

2. Poster Board Sub-Committee
   a. A meeting was hosted by Al in which several committee members met to discuss presentation issues of the Committee at events, such as the Toronto Bike Show. There were questions as to the involvement of Tourism Hamilton. Brian Applebee has contacted Maria Fortunado at tourism regarding our registration and she will get the appropriate forms to him,
   b. **Action:** Bob Brown to send a wish list of items to Maria Fortunado of what the committee would like to seen in our Bike Show booth.
   **Action:** Bob Brown will visit with Tourism and the Conservation authority to gather and/or request materials from these groups for our booth.
   c. Allocation of funds for materials upgrades:
      There was discussion about the purchasing of materials such as business cards, photo reproductions and other items to update our booth. Rob Wazny collected and presented sample price structures to the board for business cards and photo reproduction. They are:

      Business Cards (full color/glossy):
      250/$89
      500/$129
      1000/$189

      Photo Reproduction (8x10):
      100/$129

      There was discussion of the tender process. **Action:** Brian Applebee will confirm that we can proceed with the expenditures without going through the city tender process.
   d. Motion by Bob Brown that the committee go with City Template Cards.
      Seconded by Tarquin Adams.
e. Motion was amended to read: a motion for creation of our own cards separate from the City of Hamilton template to be approved by committee via e-mail. If the committee does not approve the design, then Brian will proceed with the Hamilton template option.

Carried unanimously.

f. A Motion by Al Horzelenberg to authorize $750 for media expenditures and booth presentation upgrades. Seconded by Chris Gainham.

Carried Unanimously.

g. Misc. Details:
   - **Action:** Bob Brown will get information from other cities for display.
   - **Action:** Al will try to get maps from other areas.
   - **Action:** Chris will look into relevant cycling books.
   - **Action:** Matt will put together a list of Hamilton-area events.
   - **Action:** Daryl will try to acquire MTO Safety Book
   - **Action:** Al will coordinate the volunteer schedule.

The Subcommittee will meet again at Al's house on January 18th.

3. Website Update
   a. Changes have been made to the website in accordance with committee feedback. **Action:** That the committee inform Sarah of any events, groups or photos so they may be included on the site.
   b. Regarding getting the site "live", Sarah will get the website on a disc to Brian who will get it to the appropriate city staff to upload it.
   c. The routes pamphlet will be added to the site in PDF format.
   d. **Action:** Brian will find the by-law citing sidewalk riding restrictions.
   e. Committee Wish List Maps: Daryl had made mention of maps that show continuity between routes that could be displayed on the website with a possible feedback feature. It was decided to revisit the issue at a later time due to the Sarah's current skill level and concerns about duplication with the City website.

4. Application Forms
   a. It was noted by Brian that new members need to fill out a formal application form that goes to the clerk's office.
   b. **Action:** Brian will inform Clerk's office of pertinent resignations.

5. Snow Clearing/Street Sweeping
   a. In regards to snow clearing, Brian reports that painted bike lanes are cleared in accordance with road priority time-lines unless there is no area for a snow bank, in which the lanes are plowed no more than 48 hours after a snow fall.
   b. Bike Route parallel with roads are plowed on a similar time structure
   c. Trails: hard surface asphalt within 48 hours, East Hamilton beach trail and Harbourfront waterfront trail cleared within 24 hours, non-asphalt and granular trails are not cleared at all.
Feedback: The Committee expressed concern over the lack of attention given to granular rail trails. Granular trails are do not receive winter maintenance (plowing) as the surfaces are often “soft” in mild or unfrozen conditions and the plow blade cuts into the surface and removes granular materials to the drainage swales, impeding water flow and kills the turf or plant material as a result of the changes that occur in the pH of the soil due to the lime content in the screenings.

Also the trails that cut across the escarpment are too dangerous for our plow equipment to access due to the severity of the cross falls in some locations and the equipment can shift when plowing heavy snow and be subject to rollover’s. This is especially so when the winter precipitation is freezing rain or wet snow that has hardened due to extreme cold temperatures.

The committee would like to see more services for mountain accesses, and remove the “parallel to street” clause. Other suggestions would be to designate Wilson/Claremont accesses as painted bike lanes and for the city to recognize that all multi-use routes are commuter routes.

d. **Action:** Tarquin will confer with Marco Oddi regarding the Red Hill Underpass and its proposed composition.

e. It was noted by Brian and other committee members that, when compared with other municipalities, Hamilton is relatively progressive when it comes to clearing bike lanes and trails.

f. In regards to street sweeping, painted bike lanes are swept every 1-2 weeks cleaning to curb, shoulder or ditch.

g. There was concern over winter cleaning issues such as when there is no snowfall.

h. Brian Applebee reported that the city has identified all the catch basins in the city and will begin work on repairing catch basins.

6. Routes

   a. York Boulevard
      i. The open house was held for York Blvd. improvements. The project is proceeding as planned and there is support for on-street bike lanes.
      ii. On the 22nd of February, the report goes to council and they will seek permission to file the EA for approval.

   b. Hatt Street
      i. Brian has received the final report on streetscaping. Our proposal could be weakened or strengthened by the timelines for this project with a longer period being in our favour to make interim upgrades.

   c. Hunter Street
      i. The relocation study is to be completed this month. The EA for Hunter Street is set to begin following the completion of the
relocation study. Brian will have more information at the next meeting.

7. Other Cities Commitment on Cycling
   a. Tarquin contacted the Niagara regions. They reported that one person spends 10% of their time on cycling issues and another spends 20-25% of their time on cycling issues. Niagara has recommended a full-time position for cycling, but has not implemented one due to budgetary constraints.
   b. Chris heard from London, who said that no one was specifically dedicated to cycling issues but that everyone was involved.
   c. Rob heard from Ottawa. There cycling issues are split between the City and the NCC (a national parkways group). Ottawa has one full-time staff member dedicated to cycling issues in addition to the contracted out work done by the NCC.
   d. Daryl is looking into Kitchener-Waterloo and Toronto

8. Outstanding tasks
   a. Tarquin has tried to reach the Conservation Authority regarding the gate at grays road.
   b. Tarquin has conferred with Niagara region regarding our bike map listing on their map. **Action:** Brian Applebee will notify Niagara as to the link for our map on myhamilton.ca
   c. Thom mentioned being a possible ally for Clean Air Hamilton regarding the anti-idling law and the possibility of the committee giving recommendations or support. **Action:** Thom will bring a draft to the next meeting.
   d. Thom mentioned the possibility of the committee being a presence at the Earth Day presentation put on at the Convention Centre. To be revisited at a later meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.