



FARMINGTON PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

MARCH 13, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:03

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Tim Prince, Maria Taylor, Chris Weber, Bill Gessaman, Joe VanDerZanden, Kevin Christiansen, Sue Lover, Heather Davies, Jamie Palmisano

Absent: None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve by Bill and supported by Sue, approved unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Motion to approve by Sue and supported by Maria, approved unanimously.

5. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Committee members introduced themselves, sharing the neighborhood where they live and projects and focused that most interest them.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. Review of annual presentation to City Council

-Tim gave a brief summary of the presentation he gave to City Council last month to orient the new committee members.

Discussion moved on to discussing these related issues:

-Transportation Improvement Association of Michigan (TIA) is currently conducting traffic study of the speed of traffic on Grand River.

-Maria shared that she was in Lansing earlier in the day and saw progress looking like the change in the law of how speed limits are changed is likely to pass.

-Discussed projects to add crosswalks on Grand River and possibility of trying to add more than currently seeking, compared to Howell and their recently added crosswalks on Grand River.

-Heather suggested the possibility of exploring health equity funding for projects to develop and improve walkability and connectivity for the disabled.

b. 9 MILE PATHWAY UPDATE

Chris – Reported that Northville, Novi, and Lyon Township showed interest in joining and now the project is expanding to include those communities.

-Task force is still working on writing a memorandum of understanding to move forward with the project and budgeting for branding/logo and media coverage/advertising.

-Next meeting not yet scheduled.

- Joe asked if there was any plans for bathrooms on the 9 mile pathway, suggested it should be looked at as well as porta johns in the winter when

bathrooms closed. Asked about Farmington adding porta johns in the winter outside restroom facilities in parks to accommodate residents using the parks in the winter. Kevin suggested looking into adding this to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan if try to seek this.

- c. BIKE PARK, PUMP TRACKS, AND SKATE PARK IDEAS FROM AMERICAN RAMP COMPANY UPDATE– <https://americanrampcompany.com>
Chris – asked everyone to look at the website and products for next meeting when reps will join the meeting. Consider possibilities, thoughts of aiming at something teens could use specifically rather than children or adults.
- Discussed surveying the community about interest for a bike park like this company provides versus a more rustic path or other feature for space in Shiawassee Park.
- d. RAPIDLY FLASHING BEACONS ON FARMINGTON ROAD AND GRAND RIVER
Chris shared that city budget is looking at funding for 2 flashing beacons following multiple community questions/emails about returning the RFB to the Farmington Rd. crossing by CVS.
Maria suggested Pathways Committee send recommendation to the city manager for usage of existing and possible additional RFB locations. Committee recommending the following locations in order of priority:
The crosswalks on Grand River at Starbucks, Liberty Street, and by Cannelle Pasties.
Motion for the recommendations by Maria and seconded by Jamie. Motion approved unanimously.
-Heather recommended the city provide crosswalk education that drivers must stop for pedestrians at crosswalks in Farmington, not required that pedestrians have stepped off the curb for traffic to stop, utilizing social media and online means. Heather volunteered to create an infographic, will pass on to Maria to send to Melissa to post on the city Facebook page.
- e. ORCHARD LAKE AND GRAND RIVER PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS
MDOT updated the crossing in 2017, has no current plans for additional changes.
Kevin suggesting putting forward a plan for further improvements to crossings.
- f. DATE FOR FIELD TRIP TO BIKE PARK – April 2 at 6 pm. Planned to likely visit Hines Park pump track. Committee members to research bike tracks in Novi and Waterford to determine which most suits Farmington’s needs and visit that one.
- g. POWER ROAD TREE AND SIDEWALK ISSUES
 - DPW is dropping off a notice to the house of the need trim the tree to not block the sidewalk.
 - Sidewalk was torn up for water pipe work in the Fall so couldn’t pour concrete so was only patched. DPW to repair in the Spring.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. ANY NEW TARGET AREAS?
 - i. Brookdale sidewalk missing sections
Tim volunteered to check out and note where there are and are not sidewalks to look at filling in and connecting.
- b. ANY NEW CITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS?
Kevin – Mason Plaza is moving along, will update and add connections/hardscape.
Awaiting approval for fundraising. Looking at construction to break ground this year.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT

Bill – asked if the Pathways Committee will get a chance to review the plans for the Maxfield condo project. Kevin shared the DDA design committee will be working on the plans. Can ask for the committee to have a look at plans and opportunity to provide input on finish elements, particularly the pathway.

Chris shared that planning for the path down to Shiawassee is not yet completed and there is opportunity to have some input on that.

-Open park area south of Fulsom in Farmington Hills is approved for developing houses, plan is to keep a small amount of woods there. Discussed possibility of suggesting adding some sort of path/connection.

10. ADJOURNMENT

9:02 pm

Next meeting: APRIL 10, 2024