

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**CMCOG Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee**

**September 12, 2008**

**Organization**

**Person**

*City of Cayce:*

Renee Harvey

*City of Columbia:*

Chip Land

*Cycle Center:*

John Green

*DHEC:*

Jay Daniels

*Kershaw County:*

John Newman

*Palmetto Conservation Foundation:*

Nancy Stone-Collum

*PB:*

Susan Wilson

*PCC:*

Will Haltiwanger (Chairman)  
Natalie Britt

*Richland County:*

Anna Almeida

*Town of Blythewood:*

Michael Criss

*Town of Pelion:*

Charles Haggard

*USC:*

Ben Coonrod

*CMCOG Staff:*

Aaron Bell  
Wayne Shuler  
Norman Whitaker  
Fretoria Williams

**1. Welcome, Introductions, and Call to Order**

Chairman Will Haltiwanger welcomed everyone, asked them to introduce themselves and called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**2. Determination of a Quorum**

It was determined that a quorum was present.

### **3. Approval of May 2008 Meeting Minutes**

*A motion was made by Charles Haggard and properly seconded by Anna Almeida to approve the minutes from the March 2008 meeting. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.*

### **4. Legislative Update**

Natalie Britt mentioned that the Legislative Bill passed and we are now in the process of the accreditation process for a Law Officer Training Program. All Judges in the State have been contacted about the Bill. Ms. Britt also mentioned that about ten (10) years ago the League of American Bicyclists (LAB) went through a ranking status where states would be based on how bicycle friendly they are. It is a 76 question application and the last time SC was ranked we were 50<sup>th</sup> in the nation. About 3 years ago the LAB formed an advisory committee to start working on these rankings and went through the application process and for this year SC has been ranked number 15 which is a tremendous improvement. She also mentioned that we were 8<sup>th</sup> overall in the country for education and encouragement, 14<sup>th</sup> for Legislation, 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> for infrastructure. The LAB and Ms. Britt are working to get designation to make SC the first bicycle friendly southern state.

### **5. Town of Pelion Streetscape Plan**

Charles Haggard, Mayor for The Town of Pelion gave a presentation of the current Streetscape Plan. Mr. Haggard mentioned that they are working on converting the old railroad into walking trails. The current trail is about 8/10 of a mile and it is in the middle of Town. He mentioned that the town does not have money to complete the plan and they are currently working on a \$200,000 SCDOT enhancement grant. The Town of Pelion will also have a new sign as you enter into the town. An additional grant is also in the process for sidewalks that are much needed for the four (4) schools within the Town of Pelion. They applied for a grant but will not receive that grant this year but will have to re-apply or next year.

Jay Daniels mentioned have there been any plans to apply for the Safe Routes to School funding.

Natalie Britt also mentioned that the Safe Routes to School does not have a required match and is \$200,000 and 20% will go to the school for improvements.

Chip Land mentioned to Mayor Haggard to document and photograph any necessary activities of children walking that involves serious safety concerns on how important they need the sidewalks for children walking to and from school.

Susan Wilson mentioned that there are several people with organizations such as Palmetto Cycling and City's Bike Friendly committee that are able to help in the application writing for Safe Routes to School. Mayor Haggard mentioned that he will be in touch with everyone who provided helpful information and input. He also mentioned that if anyone would like to visit and take a walk in The Town of Pelion to please contact him directly.

### **6. Town of Blythewood Masterplan**

Michael Criss who is doing some consulting for the Town of Blythewood came and gave a presentation the involves creating a town masterplan. Mr. Criss mentioned that the Town Council which consists of five (5) members have decided that they would like to build upon the foundation of the comprehensive plan update. John Perry who is their new town administrator jumped right into the planning stage and put out a RFP request for proposal in which seven (7) firms responded. Of those firms she decided on TSW and Walsh out of Atlanta. He concluded with a presentation showing slides of before and after pictures of revitalization of the Town of Blythewood as well as the study areas, town center, downtown and shopping areas of interest.

#### **7. Update on CMCOG Regional Trails Plan**

Aaron Bell mentioned that Pelion and the Town of Blythewood are of interest with the Regional Trails Plan that is currently being developed. This plan is region based looking outside of Columbia to see how we can connect cities, communities, parks and trails with the information that have already been gathered. We are looking at various ways on how to connect these places through bike paths, sidewalks and walking trails. Richland County did a lot of with the consultants at Parsons Brinckerhoff and there is a lot of information that we would like to incorporate into the plan. Mr. Bell stated that this will remain on the agenda for the next several months and would like to receive input from the committee on identifying points of interest, attractions, bicycle and walking trails, etc. This will then be assessed with all information provided to begin on Phase I by the Fall 2009.

#### **8. Old/New Business**

Committee members expressed there concern about the tour that was cancelled saying that they would still like that tour in place of a meeting.

Ben Coonrod also mentioned that he would like to have a discussion about the mid-block crossing at the upcoming meeting.

#### **9. Public Comments**

There were none.

#### **10. Adjourn**

Will Haltiwanger adjourn the meeting at 10:23 a.m.