

ALEXANDRIA FAMILIES FOR SAFE STREETS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Zoom Meeting: Tuesday, April 18, 2023

Participants:

Charles Bailey
Dane Lauritzen
Norm Lisy
Christian Paletta
Brian Shankman
Patrick Wise

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM EDT) by Norm Lisy

Treasurer's report:

- Cash Balance: \$22,763.18
- CPA has filed the 2022 IRS 990 PF. Note: Both the EIN and Private Foundation designation have been terminated. This is the final filing for Alexandria Families for Safe Streets as a separate entity.

Guest Speaker:

- APD Rep was not present for the call.
- Norm updated the meeting based on Mike Doyle's Notes. Mike could not attend due to a business meeting out of town. Mikes Notes include:
 - The Walk Audit at FT Day and Hammond highlighted the problems with:
 - narrow sidewalks (FT Day where a Dash bus unloads about 30 to 40 kids all at once to get to their school while trying to cross the east side of Rayburn),
 - parents running against the pedestrian light with child in hand to cross Beauregard
 - no island refuge on the 4 lane Beauregard for slower walkers to be protected
 - a bus stop across Seminary Road at Hammond that forces kids to diagonally cross the intersection. The bus stop could be moved to the east side of Library Lane so kids wouldn't have to run in the middle of the intersection
 - extremely poor visibility for drivers to see around hedges to look if anyone is on the sidewalk when trying to access Seminary Road from Kenmore Ave that looks like an alley way, not a normal road but cars travel this lane
 - typical lack of drivers looking left or right when making turns
 - Dr. Christian stated that e-bikes being ridden on the Potomac Trail. Suggestions: speed bumps or separate lanes for pedestrians and cyclists may be long term solutions
 - Thanks Dr. Christian for covering the Walk Audit at Minnie Howard on Wednesday morning, April 19th. Casey Kane has volunteered on our behalf to cover the Walk Audit at the HS in the afternoon.
 - The Spring Fling event at Wm Ramsey on Saturday was good. I ran out of the supply of 100 blinkers and handed out 70 NM cards to adults. The NM cards have the new QR code so we can see if any of those cards are activated. We can't tell who activated the NM survey (unless they enter their info on the survey) but we can see if the cards given to people in Alexandria are used to access the survey.

- Duke Street Mobility Project.
 - Dane reported about the work of the Advisory Group which is closing out public comment this month (April).
 - Advisory Group will recommend a preferred option to the Council in May.
 - We should support option **a** (center running lanes) and option **y** (separated pedestrian and bike paths). These are safer because of protected left lanes, increased pedestrian infrastructure, and reduced bike/pedestrian conflict.
 - After the Advisory Group, the city will consider DSIM in late June which will be our next chance to offer comment on the project.
- Grant Application:
 - Patrick Wise provided an update about the AARP Grant Application:
 - AARP Grant application has been submitted, but we were not selected this time.
 - In another six (6) months, however, we can reapply.
 - To elevate our application, we need to include clear measures of success that may include:
 - Contacts (QR, Farmer's Market, etc.)
 - Founding of 3 chapters in three counties
 - Results from Advocacy efforts. Speed camera advocacy?
 - A material issue to keep the promotion and education going for ASE.

New Business:

- Brian Shankman reported on Near Miss activity. Current work is to connect NM reports to 311 to batch sending the reports.
- Volunteer opportunities were discussed:
 - Appeal to schools (especially private) positioning opportunity as a contribution to public health
 - Link up with a teacher who has direct contact with kids
 - Invite teachers to our meetings
 - Contact Volunteer Alexandria

Upcoming Events:

- Norm reminded that the Spring fundraiser (Spring2Action) launches on April 26 (Friday).
- Next Advisory Committee Meeting is May16, 2023
- Discussion ensued about the notion of a in person meeting: one suggestion was to have a face to face meeting outdoors in celebration of our 6th anniversary (July, 2023)
- Reminder that Bike to Work Day is Friday, May 19. AFSS will be staffing the rest stop in Del Ray.

Meeting was concluded at 7:40 PM

Submitted:

Norman Lisy