

Albany Bicycle Coalition Monthly Meeting Notes February 24, 2022, 7:00 PM

Attendees

Ed Davidson, David Pisaneschi, John Gillivan, Darlene McGraw, Mark Maniak, Lorenz Worden, Tess Draushak, Samuel Johnson, Andrew, Greg, Jill Haimson, Glenn Sandberg, Ed Brennan

Capital Roots! - We happily welcomed Tess Draushak of Capital Roots. Tess works on Bike-Ped and Complete Streets issues for Capital Roots. Capital Roots was previously a long time partner of ABC in various endeavors. It is great to have them joining us again.

Special Topic - Mayhem on the Roadways - Ed reported:

- The NYS Safe Streets Coalition will Zoom-Meet with the Governor's Office on Wednesday 3/2 to discuss support for the Crash Victims Rights and Safety Act.
- Albany City will vote March 7th on a resolution of support for the CVRSA
- ABC is seeking persons to participate in a walk/ride to City Hall before the vote
- ABC encourages members and interested persons in other Capital Region municipalities to seek resolutions as our state legislature needs to see strong upstate support for these measures

Special Topic - Capitaland Spoketacular - Ed reported:

- A meeting was scheduled with YWCA to combine their May 21st ride with our efforts and make this ride the first "leg" of the 2022 Capitaland Spoketacular
- Not in time for the meeting, we heard back from our outreach to CDPHP and will be discussing possibilities of combining efforts with a planned United Way/CDTA ride in the Fall

Reports

- **Treasurer's Report** - David reported:
 - 2022 dues and finances are looking good as compared to 2021
 - A small sum was agree to as compensation for our listserv provider
 - He paid our insurance premium upon request by Ed on short notice using his credit card and we all agreed to his recompense. This will henceforth be more properly done in a timely manner by ABC Account Check
 - He would send around our insurance documents for review
- **Transport Troy Update** - Pam is away, no report received this month
- **Cycle Schenectady Report** - No report received this month
- **Bikeatoga Report** - No report received this month
- **Bike Capital Region** - Ed reported:

- The focus of the planned regional organization appears to be changing from one of purely bike focus to one of “transportation alternatives” including bike, pedestrian, mass transit and disability issues.
- The driver for the change is the potential for staff funding for such an organization serving an advisory role to CDTA
- **CDTC Bike Ped Committee November Meeting** - John G. reported:
 - Elizabeth King spoke on the progress of the Patroon Creek Greenway study - which was finalizing route choice options, including:
 - three options from Everett Road to Tivoli Preserve
 - three options from Tivoli Preserve to the Albany Skyway. In addition
 - a proposed protected bike lane along Commerce Street
 - All are encouraged to complete the project survey at: <https://www.patroongreenway.com/>
 - CDTC is considering a UPWP grant request submitted by Village of Colonie for a Complete Streets feasibility study for Sand Creek Road (Sand Creek Rd is part of the ABC Albany-Colonie connector concept)
 - Upon inquiry as to what CDTC could do to encourage Colonie to complete the connection from the British American Blvd bike lanes to the Mohawk Hudson Bike Hike Trail, John G. was told that the Town would need to approach CDTC.
 - Capital Coexist Grant opportunities will continue in the Spring of 2022 (e.g. demonstration projects).
 - Bike to Work & School Program will be held on June 1st, 2022.
 - "Ditch the Car" will run from June to September 2022.
 - Bike Safety Training is planned with certified bike mechanics.

Old Business –

- **Transportation Projects**
 - **Patroon Greenway Project** - In other Greenway news, Ed reported the study group is considering a ride in the Spring or Summer and seemed happy to have ABC participate
- **Rides**
 - **Earth Day 2022** Glenn reported:
 - The planned date is April 23 (Saturday) with a rain day on the 24th.
 - The ride will work its way between Radix Composting/Garden Center in South Albany and the Warehouse District.
 - The eco-friendly ride would highlight infrastructure recycling as well as more traditional recycling and composting efforts.
 - There would be an opportunity for food and drink after the ride.

- **Slow Rides for 2022** We currently have two notions for Slow Rides
 - Patroon Creek ride
 - Library Ride
 - We are still looking for additional ideas
- **Ride of Silence, May 18th** John G. and Ed Reported
 - The plan for this years ROS is to cap it off with some kind of ceremony on Central Avenue that would focus on the endless mayhem on that corridor in cooperation with Walkable Albany and perhaps Save Colonie and other concerned citizens
 - Participants could walk or ride to Central Avenue from a location like Cook Park without actually walking or riding on Central Avenue

New Business –

- **ABC TV/Let's Get Reels** - Ed reported
 - As weather improves and snow melts we should get out and do additional filming at the Central Avenue/I87 and Latham Circle crash sites to get more camera angles that we can use for producing useful ABC TV video commentary
- **Membership Outreach/Tabling**
 - Ed reminded participants of our pre-COVID effort to broaden ABC demographics to include other communities and a younger age group.
 - Ed sought out members interested in Tabling at Tulip Fest and different Live at Five events
 - It was suggested we also look at farmer's markets
- **British American - MHBHT Connector Update** - John G. reported:
 - Despite the article about the connector in the Times Union, nobody in the Town is responding to requests to meet on the subject
 - He would be writing Town Supervisor Crummey on the connector

Upcoming – Rides/events/issues? (Go here - <https://albanybicyclecoalition.com/resources/events/>)

- **Meeting Dates**
 - ABC meets the last [not the 4th] Thursday of each month unless there is a conflicting holiday. Upcoming dates are as follows: 3/31, 4/28

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