



Meeting Notes

Albany Bicycle Coalition Monthly Meeting

8/29/19 7:00 PM

LaSalle School – George E. Hanner Center

391 Western Ave., Albany, 12203

C:\Users\Lorenz M. Worden\Documents\Bicycle\Meetings\1-2019\ABC Meeting Notes ~ 8-29-19.doc

Reports –

- **Treasurer Report** (David P.) – Report rendered. Some issues with PayPal to be resolved.
- **Transport Troy** (Pam) – Collar City Ramble on track (9/28).

Old Business –

- **Town of Colonie Comprehensive Plan** (John G., All) – Briefing on ABC aspects. Some progress made for people on bicycles based on many comments submitted. Working to get Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee organized (which has a 1-3 year period in the plan). Will continue pushing for Albany-Shaker Rd. bicycle considerations (or at least protecting what modest facilities are already there). Discussion of reengaging on the Albany-Colonie Connector and to initiate the two Crossings Park access routes as bicycle projects for the Town of Colonie to embrace. (The Albany-Colonie Connector proposal also needs to go to the Town of Niskayuna.)
- **Western Ave. Traffic Calming** (All) – Discussion. Concern expressed about road width to accommodate bicycle lanes + motor vehicle traffic volume. Discussion of Town of Guilderland and CDTA “purple route” proposals. It was noted that the first thing the City of Albany would do would be an analysis of the feasibility of Traffic Calming on this street based on data. Lorenz will redraft letter to *Times Union* and circulate with the ABCore.
- **Slow Roll Albany** (Mark) – Attempting to contact the Slow Roll Buffalo event manager.
- **Underground Railroad Bike Tour - 9/22** (Ed, All) – Event all set. Will visit the Schuyler enslaved people gravesites in St. Agnes Catholic Cemetery. Will develop an email that we will send to our e-lists. The email will mention that the ride fee includes a luncheon and that there will be a “rain date.”
- **11/16 – Renewable Energy and Sustainable Living Fair** (Ed, et al.) – Sat, 11/16, 10 AM – 4 PM. – Will have two monitors – slides of riders in the area plus “hands on” demo of the BikeAlbanyMap. Will use a brief survey as a tool for engaging visitors to our display (draft to follow).
- **ABC Picnic** - 8/10 – (All) Event enjoyed by all.
- **Patroon Greenway Project** (Rob, All) – Rob to host exploratory ride which we will schedule when the weeds and ticks are gone. Tires in the 35-38 mm range and wider suggested. This could be a safe, off-Central Ave. east-west route though the City of Albany for recreation and locomotion. The proposed route: (1) is included in the Capital District Transportation Committee Trails Plan (https://www.cdtcmopo.org/images/bike_ped/TrailsPlan/CDTC_TrailsPlan_F3_reduced.pdf), (2) could serve the Towns of Colonie and Guilderland, and (3) would be a premier multiuse facility for the capital region.
- **Daily Grind-to-Daily Grind Ride** - 8/17 – (All) Recap.
- **MHBHT Roots** (David P.) – Having received no help from any officials and no response from Albany County, we agreed that we would try a letter to the *Times Union*. David will draft.

New Business –

- **Albany Bicycle Master Plan Revised** (Zach Powell - City of Albany Planning Office) – We were pleased to have a city representative to provide a briefing on the revisions to the Albany Bicycle Master Plan and its expansion to include pedestrians. Points as follows: getting ready to ask for bids from vendors to write the plan; reaching out to community groups such as ABC and Walkable Albany to gather ideas and build support; will re-assess all the bicycle routes proposed in the 2009 plan; hope to start the actual project in January 2020. Members had many specific questions as the plan is of great interests to us. Glenn received assurance that the BikeAlbanyMap (and its underlying philosophy) would be assessed as part of the effort. Zach confirmed that they are aware of the BAM. We assured Zach that ABC and its members individually would assist in anyway on the plan's development.
- **Noodle Experiment** (Margaret, Mark) – A proposal was made via Facebook for ABC to promote attaching a swimming “noodle” to one’s bicycle as a “safe passing indicator for people in cars.” Mark volunteered to conduct an experiment using his recently acquired “noodle.” He will report.
- **Holiday Party** – (Margaret, Glenn, All) Tentative date set – 12/19. Glenn to confer with Margaret on date. Discussed possibility of a “pot luck” at member’s house or other location as opposed to a restaurant meal.
- **Village of Colonie “Teen Tech Day”** (John G.) – Fall or spring event in Locust Park to teach teens basic bicycle maintenance and safety checks.

Attending – Glenn, Mark, John G., Ed, Zach, David P., and Lorenz.

Upcoming – Rides/events/issues? (See below and go here for more events - <https://albanybicyclecoalition.com/resources/events/>)

- **9/7-8 – Weekend Annual Century** – [100, 62.5, 50, 25, and 12-mile routes](#). Rides start and end at the Altamont Fairgrounds. Includes cue sheet, full route markings, staffed rest stops, and SAG support. See <https://www.mohawkhudsoncyclingclub.org/calendar/events/2019/09/07/2019-mhcc-century-weekend> Register here - <https://www.bikereq.com/mhcc-century> Open to the public. [Mohawk Hudson Cycling Club](#), **CONTACT:** Chet Lasell cdlasell@gmail.com
- **9/22 - Underground Railroad Bike Tour** – Sun, meet - 9:30 AM; ride - 10:00 AM, 194 Livingston Ave., Albany - Ride begins and ends at the [Historic Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence](#). Stops at other pertinent sites. The ride from Albany to Troy will be approximately 16 to 20 miles. Helmets required. \$25 includes lunch and supports the Underground Railroad History Project and the Albany Bicycle Coalition. Refreshments at the end of the tour. Info – <https://albanybicyclecoalition.com/> and <https://www.hudsonrivervalleyramble.com/ramble/events/ev-detail/the-underground-railroad-bicycle-tour>
- **9/28 - Collar City Ramble** - It's time to RAMBLE! Tour Troy's urban trails by foot, bicycle, water, or whatever alternate transportation. Discover places you have never seen. The Collar City Ramble covers Troy in ways that anyone can find to enjoy. <https://www.transporttroy.com/>

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