

# BFK Education Committee

## Meeting Notes

February 12, 2014

### Present

Ethan Alexander, Open Roads Bicycle Project & KRESA

Kyle Doster, Officer, Portage Department of Public Safety

Paul Guthrie, Laboratory Manager, Bronson Methodist Hospital

Kevin Martini, Office for Sustainability, WMU

Renee Mitchell, Education Chair, Kalamazoo Bicycle Club

### Notes

Topics covered included the following items. Action items follow on next page.

1. Main Education Committee Goals for 2014
  - a. Finish bicycling educational materials to post to BFK web site begun last year
  - b. Invite group of volunteers willing to put on bike education programs, talks
  - c. Set up venues to put on bike education programs (in addition to what community is already doing)
2. Education Materials
  - a. Planet Bike: Be Bright program: Giving away bike safety materials. **Kevin** will send this out.
  - b. Knog (<http://www.knog.com.au>) is another program that gives lights away.
  - c. Could we create a one page pamphlet? Paul, Ethan, and Renee will explore possibility of a one page handout(s) addressing bike safety topics. Will look into a logo and document template as well.
3. Educational Events: Current "Inventory"
  - a. League of Michigan Bicyclists offers a class for Public Safety staff.
  - b. Safe Kids has bike rodeo for youth
  - c. Kalamazoo Bicycle Club offers a Bike Camp for adults and families
  - d. Crossroads Mall wants to offer a number of community outreach events – host a bike rodeo. Open Roads may be interested in collaborating on a Portage Event. **Ethan** will look into this
  - e. Open Roads will resume Fixapalooza youth workshops in the spring. Also planning a bike maintenance course at WMU in the spring. Date not yet planned. ([www.openroadsbike.org](http://www.openroadsbike.org) for updates.)
4. Discussed the needs of the "Survival Cyclists"
  - a. Survival Cyclists: People who have no choice but to use bicycles as primary means of transportation. Often low income. May be transient.
  - b. Kyle Doster talked about the challenges of pulling survival cyclists over and making sure they are compliant w. safety laws. **Kyle** agreed to consider the booklet – "What Every Michigan Bicyclist Must Know" for officers to hand out during patrols.

5. Discussed elements of a “Bicycle Friendly” certification.
  - a. We agreed that it would be beneficial for members of the education committee to become more conversant with the various applications for the Bike Friendly awards criteria in various categories. **Kevin** agreed to get a PDF of the **BFC** application.
6. Next meeting
  - a. March 12, 2014 3:30 PM

## ACTION Items:

Ethan Alexander

- Look into collaborating with Crossroads mall on bike safety youth event.
- Try to get materials from Bike Grand Rapids to refer to

Kyle Doster

- Stock a supply of What every cyclist must know in the car as a talking point for cyclist incidents.

Kevin Martini

- Look into Be Bright Program
- Get a Bike Friendly Community application for team to review

Renee Mitchell

- Work with Paul Guthrie and Ethan to explore a 1 page bike safety handout(s)

Renee and Ethan

- Work to complete the bike safety PowerPoint. Goal: June 2014

All

- When given the opportunity, collect educational materials from bike shops or other places where displayed and bring to next meeting.

*Notes prepared by Ethan Alexander, Renee Mitchell, co-facilitators*