

BPAC JUNE 10, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

5:30PM – Meeting Commences

Attendance:

Members	Attendance
Alexander McRae, Chairperson <i>Term expires: 11/2027</i>	X
Edwin Linderkamp, Vice Chairperson <i>Term expires: 04/2028</i>	A
Dr. Alexander “Sandy” Pope, Committee Member <i>Term expires: 10/2026</i>	A
Mary Buffington, Committee Member <i>Term expires: 10/2026</i>	A
Saraleigh Monroe, Committee Member <i>Term expires: 04/2028</i>	X
City Council	
Angela Blake, Council Liaison	A
City Staff Support	
Nick Voitiuc	A
Saujanya Guragain	X

- Saujanya briefed the committee on the remaining BPAC budget and the items currently available in the inventory.
- Saraleigh suggested using the budget to purchase new spoke reflectors and pole banners. Alex suggested bike lights (rechargeable), bike bells, reflective leg bands, water bottles (with stickers), and bike locks.
- Saujanya presented additional items suggested by Nick, which included bike racks, bike repair stations, and a bike library. Alex and Saraleigh liked the ideas but suggested discussing them in future meetings with broader participation, noting that the current focus should remain on giveaway items.
- Alex shared that he believed Roadie Joe’s Bar & Grill had expressed interest in setting up a bike station at some point in the past.
- Saujanya stated that he would send an email to the entire committee to gather more input on potential BPAC purchase items.
- Alex discussed the BPAC presentation he had prepared. He shared several bullet points connecting increased bike and pedestrian activity with topics such as revenue generation for downtown businesses, benefits to the City, health improvements, safety, community building, and enhanced quality of life. He also spoke about a strategic action plan for BPAC's future. Alex cited multiple publications to support his ideas.

- Saraleigh asked Alex to include a few additional points that could be relevant and engaging. Shared points:
 - Although Ocean City and other beach towns offer different attractions, we are still competing for the same tourism dollars;
 - Slower traffic tends to result in greater engagement with downtown businesses;
 - Acquiring data from local bike shops showing an increase in electric bike purchases could provide a strong case for promoting bike- and pedestrian-centric infrastructure;
 - The presence of bike infrastructure encourages use, even though current usage levels may not always justify infrastructure investments. In other words, predicting usage without existing infrastructure is difficult, but adding infrastructure often leads to increased use.
- Saraleigh asked if the rail trail project could be included in the presentation. Alex responded that he believes the presentation is intended to be high-level and will not focus on specific projects.
- The committee discussed regarding the remaining BPAC seats. Alex and Saraleigh stated they would follow up with individuals they believe might be interested in joining the committee, including some who had been previously contacted.

6:30 PM- Meeting Ends