

Meeting Venue: Zoom conference call

22 Sept 2020

Attendees:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Mike Doyle | Gillian Burgess |
| Michelle Brydges | Debbie Spiliotopoulos |
| Mary Dallao | Cristina Burbach |
| Don Sottide | Cody Brandon (sp?) |
| Rose Landerer McCabe | Laura Kirkconnell |
| Christine Baker | Tug ___ ? |
- Plus, another person that Zoom didn't register their name

Discussion points:

❖ Guest Speakers

- **ACPD** – no representative could attend. Lt. Dan Murphy is retiring, and his replacement has not been named as of the meeting date. Lt. Murphy did send the below:

JAN-AUG	2019	2020
BIKES	54	26
PEDESTRIAN	64	59
SCOOTERS	13	6

Month	2019 Ped	2019 Bike	2019 Scooter	2019 Total	2020 Ped	2020 Bike	2020 Scooter	2020 Total
January	11	1	1	13	17	2	1	20
February	12	3		15	12	2	1	15
March	9	7		16	7	1		8
April	8	7	1	16	2	3		5
May	4	9	3	16	3	1	3	7
June	6	10	2	18	5	7		12
July	6	8	1	15	8	7	1	16
August	8	9	5	22	5	3		8
Total	64	54	13	131	59	26	6	91

- During COVID, there has been a drop in the number of crashes, however the damages have been more severe, as cars are traveling faster
- **Vision Zero** updates (Christine Baker)
 - Recently published reports based upon analysis of 2017-2019 crash data
 - Systemic Crash Analysis <https://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2020/09/Systemic-Analysis-Exec-Summary.pdf>

- High Injury Network <https://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2020/09/Arlington-County-Vision-Zero-High-Injury-Net-work.pdf>
- Hot Spot Map <https://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2020/09/Arlington-County-Crash-Hot-Spot-new-base-map.pdf>
- o These documents explore factors in serious injury and fatal events, and identify areas of follow up
- o Vision Zero public engagement is underway <https://transportation.arlingtonva.us/vision-zero/get-involved/> through the end of October
- o Vision Zero plan will be drafted for Spring 2021

❖ Old Business

- New Board Members for Arl FSS are Gillian Burgess, Michelle Brydges, Debbie Spiliotopoulos, Cristina Burbach and Mike Doyle (Adjunct Member).
 - o We welcome one or two additional members for the Board. If interested, please contact Mike at: mike@novafss.org
 - o Board participants attend most of the monthly meetings and we typically have 3-4 additional Board meetings during a year
 - o Arl FSS needs to set up a bank account for the chapter -- typical expenses would be simple things like marketing swag/giveaways
 - o All of the 501.c3 administrative work will be at the NoVA FSS level, and required filings are being handled by other volunteers (lawyers, accountants)
 - o Grant application writing would happen at the NoVA FSS level
- Walk to School (Mike on behalf of Lauren Hassel)
 - o “Walktober” will be a whole month about street safety with a pedestrian focus
 - 1st Week of Oct: “Walk the Block”
 - 2nd Week of Oct: “Sidewalk Audit”
 - 3rd Week of Oct: “Practice Your Route to School”
 - 4th Week of Oct: “Be safe, be seen” at night theme
 - o Arlington Public Schools are pre-enrolled in all events
 - o Details include additional signage, decals showing a safe walk route and draft sidewalk audit tool will follow
- VT Grad School of Urban Planning – Mike provided background information
 - o Virginia Tech has a year-long class which is a capstone studio that all students in the Master of Urban and Regional Planning program must take as a requirement. Each year the studio works with a particular community partner to both provide assistance in a planning related area as well as build their practical skills working on "real life" questions/issues. Arl FSS / NoVA FSS will be the community partner this year.

- The studio has 10 students in the program. NoVA FSS provided a variety of suggested studio projects; e.g. topics of GIS/data, education, and outreach. The student sub-groups are starting to meet and mentioned that they will want to arrange a time to ask NoVA FSS additional questions now that they are getting more familiar with the associated topics. Some of the students may be attending AFSS & Arl FSS Zoom meetings to give them more context.
- The VT Grad School projects could be in the below areas:
 - Integrate AFSS's online "near miss data" into a Google / Waze map to alert drivers about locations with crashes and to facilitate analysis traffic crash sites vs. near miss locations in NoVa and why are they dangerous.
 - Research and help develop street safety educational programs for school curricula and training for primary, middle, and high school students.
 - Elevate NoVA FSS outreach programs in Arlington, Fairfax, and Alexandria
 - Public and Government agencies outreach
- Other Arl FSS updates since July
 - Launch of website: <https://arl.novasafestreets.org> (uses WordPress, and Mail-Chimp for email outreach)
 - Social media updates (always seeking help with social media!!)
 - Next Door posts have been effective in reaching new participants
 - Working with NVRC / Debbie to coordinate the "Near Miss" survey <https://sharevaroads.org/resources/report-an-incident/>
 - Sent inaugural Arl FSS Newsletter: <https://arl.novasafestreets.org/2020/09/01/arl-fsss-inaugural-newsletter/>
 - AFSS / NoVA FSS Joined the Virginia Conservation Network <http://www.vcnva.org>, concentrating on the environment but view transportation as part of the mission and sought a group focused on pedestrians. They can offer NoVA FSS professional lobbyists and grant writers assistance.
- Ideas for Arl FSS
 - Leverage the VT Grad School studio class partnership -- data analytics and outreach (meeting with Tom Sanchez now scheduled for 9/29/2020)
 - Follow Alexandria model, good relationships with police, complete streets, health department, safe routes to school -- part of the effort is to "connect the dots" between different groups
 - October, safety month "Walktober" (meeting now scheduled 9/30/2021 with Lauren Hassel of Safe Routes to School)
 - Give volunteer hours to get things done with the County -- e.g. Alexandria volunteers conducted audit of "uncontrolled crosswalks" (no traffic lights, no stop signs), resulting in over identification of >450 uncontrolled crosswalks in Alexandria. Effort required >200 volunteer hours.

- Identify a number of dangerous roads like Lee Highway / Washington Blvd, work to get to the bottom of it. VDOT vs. County, dig in and explore the issue.
- Cooperation, and collective voices is a key to success.
- Last week of October -- Daylight Savings and Halloween is an opportunity to draw attention to the need to be street safety diligent
 - November/December through to February are the peak crash months
 - Advocate behavior change, slow down.
- Cristina B highlighted that the running community is not focused enough on visibility. Could be an opportunity to work with local running shops, co-market discount on reflective gear, e.g. Nox Gear <https://www.noxgear.com> (Nox Gear site also offers 30% off of first purchase)
- Debbie suggested reflective gear, and looking at lighting during walk audits, and also getting together near term to conduct walk audits in different areas, start to form neighborhood partnerships
 - AARP / VDOT have walk audit to-do lists -- need to get items onto the list
- Introduction to the Arlington County Board - safety is always an issue. Met previously with Christian Dorsey but we should connect with other members
- AFSS uses handouts as educational materials e.g. “the wave” promoting active engagement with drivers when crossing streets. Should Arl FSS try this?
- Arl FSS has opportunities to promote the hands-free new traffic law and 3 other new pieces of legislation that we could help raise the level of public awareness
- Debbie suggested using “drive smart” marketing collateral, update pocket guides
- How do we capture specific member concerns?
 - Near Miss survey for specific incidents <https://arl.novasafestreets.org/near-miss-and-dangerous-intersection-survey/>
 - Michelle created draft Arl FSS Member Areas of Concern google spreadsheet to collect locations of concern: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1lvFs8rlcf9e9rWOkN2R5UyBtOZbsovP9Jb4OkahQeRk/edit?usp=sharing> potentially a starting point for planning walk audits and other efforts.

❖ Upcoming events:

- Walk to School / Week / Month – Wed, Oct 7, 2020
- **Next Arl FSS Meeting** – the 4th Tuesday of Month, Oct 27th
- Sister AFSS Meeting – the 3rd Tuesday of Month Oct 20th
- **Sister Ffx FSS Kick Off Meeting** – Thursday, Oct 22nd