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August Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2021 (Virtual Meeting)

Bob McBride called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Member attendees: Bob McBride (Chair), Karen Rosenberg (Vice-Chair), Christine Schultz (Secretary), Karl Hassler (Treasurer), Mark Deshon, Dave Saunders, Brian Bahnson, Paul Baumbach, and Kevin Monahan

Partner liaison attendees:

University of Delaware: Caitlin Olsen (Government Relations)

Bike Delaware: John Bare

Delaware Greenways: Adam Crosby

City of Newark: Greg D'Elia (Police)

Bicycle Friendly University Ad Hoc Committee Report

The BFU application has been reviewed, and potential gaps have been addressed. The committee's next meeting is in September, and it hopes to include the University of Delaware's new Parking and Transportation head (TBA). Mark Deshon is confident the application will be complete by the October 1st deadline. Thank you to UD's Caitlin Olsen for offering to pay the application fee for UD.

Pedestrian and Bicycle-Safety Data Analysis, 2012–2016

Dave Racca of UD's Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, who had been contracted to do an analysis of pedestrian and bike-related crashes over a period of time and assess risk analysis for the state of Delaware, reported at a recent WILMAPCO Non-Motorized Transportation Group meeting. Because there were very little data for the analyses, he reminded attendees about the importance of gathering data. The challenge of obtaining information was discussed. Bike Delaware's John Bare noted that the state does not release crash information to the public.

Event Planning

Newark Community Day – Sunday, Sept 19, 11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

The outdoor event is scheduled to proceed in September on The Green at the University of Delaware. We will contact Mike Fortner, with the City of Newark, to request that our tent is next to Delaware Greenways and Newark Bike Project. Christine Schultz, Karl Hassler, David Saunders, Mark Deshon, and Karen Rosenberg all volunteered to be at the table for a short period. Please contact Bob McBride if you are available to be at the tent for part of the event.

Fall safety checkpoint event – Monday, Sept 20, 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

This twice-a-year event, aimed at UD students, will be on The Green at Delaware Avenue. Christine Schultz and Mark Deshon can attend. Please contact Bob McBride if you are available to volunteer at the tent. Representatives from DelDOT and UD Police will be there, as well as a mechanic from the Newark Bike Project.

Other potential events to sponsor/co-sponsor

- **Bikeways opening dedication event/ride**

Discussion ensued on a possible fall “ribbon-cutting” event to celebrate the two new signed routes completed earlier this year. Mark Deshon suggested we might wait until the West Bikeway signs can be installed (contingent upon when the new park on the former Rodney dorm property opens). A decision was made to wait until then for a celebratory loop ride that would start and end on the Central Loop Bikeway and take in all three of the “phase 2” bikeway segments.

- **Emerson Bridge ribbon-cutting event**

The bridge isn’t complete, and installation has been postponed twice so far this summer, so this event likely will occur later in the fall. Installation is currently scheduled for late September.

- **Info table during Alfresco Dining on Main Street**

All agreed that this suggestion is a good one, but it was tabled and will be discussed again later. It would require volunteers to put in the time.

Transportation Improvement District (TID) Planning Update

The report from this City of Newark committee will be heading to City Council soon and does contain a few of the bicycle projects that BikeNewark submitted.

Application for Delaware Bicycle Council Grant Report

Mark is working on the grant applications. Based on feedback during the July partnership meeting, three potential project areas were identified—Chrysler Avenue, Casho Mill Road, and Lovett Avenue. The applications are due on Friday, Sept 27. The City will ultimately select the project(s) to submit. Adam Crosby of Delaware Greenways will provide a letter of support for the Chrysler Avenue application. BikeNewark requested a letter of support for the Lovett Avenue project from UD. Caitlin Olsen agreed to furnish one.

The Newark Partnership (TNP) Sustainability Project

Ideas are needed for appropriate projects for high school students to study sustainable transportation. Please send any ideas to Bob.

University of Delaware Bike-Share Task Force Organizing

Most members of the task force are graduate students at UD. The committee is tasked to report to the Faculty Senate in the spring. Newark Bike Project’s Jamie Magee shared information on previous bike-share discussions in 2015, which ultimately stalled. We may discuss with Lou Rossi,

BikeNewark member and Dean of the Graduate College, how the process works as it moves through Faculty Senate.

Treasurer's Report

We started with a balance of \$5,746.60 and ended with \$5,745.45. Welcome to three new members—Victor Perez, Frank Schroeder, and Kevin Monahan—who joined since the July partnership meeting.

Beginning balance 7/16/2021		\$ 5,746.60	\$ 9.41	\$ 5,756.01
Additions:				
7/30/21	Interest	0.05		0.05
7/19/21	Frank Schroeder - membership		10.00	10.00
7/20/21	Victor Perez - membership		10.00	10.00
7/29/21	Hassler - membership		10.00	10.00
7/29/21	Transfer PP>WSFS	28.23	(28.23)	0.00
8/5/21	Monahan - membership		10.00	10.00
8/18/21	Transfer PP>WSFS	18.57	(18.57)	0.00
Total additions		46.85	(6.80)	40.05
Deductions:				
7/27/20	Frank Schroeder - membership		0.59	0.59
7/27/20	Victor Perez - membership		0.59	0.59
7/29/21	Hassler - membership		0.59	0.59
7/29/21	Deshon - reimb WPress Personal-no ac	48.00 [4]		48.00
8/5/21	Monahan - membership		0.84	0.84
Total deductions		48.00	2.61	50.61
Surplus (deficit)		(1.15)	(9.41)	(10.56)
Ending balance 8/19/2021		\$ 5,745.45	\$ 0.00 [5]	\$ 5,745.45

New or Old Business

Update on Christina Valley Stream Trail wayfinding

Dave Saunders shared that good progress is being made with respect to adding signs to this trail (formerly known as the Rittenhouse Trail), and he hopes to report completion by the next partnership meeting. A total of 26 posts have been implemented. Most people walk on this trail, but mountain bikers also use it. This is a project on which BikeNewark is cooperating with the Wilmington Trail Club and the City of Newark.

Update on Wyoming Road project feasibility study

A feasibility study for this project was funded last year by a Delaware Bicycle Council grant. The City is about to award a contract to Whitman Requardt & Associates. WRA's Jeff Riegner, who was a speaker at Bike Delaware's 2020 summit on engineering intersections for people, will be involved in the study.

Adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Minutes by Christine Schultz