



April Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2024 (Virtual Meeting)

Bob McBride called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

Member Attendees: Bob McBride (Chair), Kevin Monahan (Vice Chair), Dave Schultz and JT Fleming

Partner Liaison Attendees:

DelDOT: Paul Moser

Bike DE: John Bare

UDPD: Bill Sweitzer

City of Newark: Michael Fortner

Presentation on AIWhoo Local Wayfinding App Project

- Matt Soponaro of AIWhoo, who was scheduled to present about their wayfinding app that they are developing in conjunction with the Trail Kiosk Project, was not able to attend.
- Bob McBride said that Matt will make a presentation at a future BikeNewark meeting.

Upcoming Projects for Spring/Summer 2024

- Grand Re-opening of the Newark Bike Project - April 19
 - Bob asked that anyone interested to drop by.
- Bike to School Day - May 16
 - Kevin Monahan reported that West Park ES is interested in including a presentation about bike safety. He also said that a bike rodeo could not be scheduled for this year.
- Bike to Work Day - May 17
 - Bob noted that speakers for the event are confirmed: Paul Baumbach is keynote speaker with attendance possible from Rep. Romer, Sen. Sokola, County Executive Matt Meyer, Joe Spadafino and Tom Coleman.
 - Bob said that there is interest from WLGore to send a participating team and we are working on getting Chemours and Bloom Energy to also send teams.
- Family Bike Fest - June 9
 - Kevin said that in order for the event to be successful, there needs to be some additional sponsorships. He noted that perhaps some additional funding from Newark Rotary and TNP could be brought in.
- FirstFriday Rides
 - Bob mentioned that between him and Michael Smith, we should have coverage for the summer but we need to return to the matter for the fall.

- Joe Spadafino Retirement Celebration
 - After some discussion, it was agreed that a celebration should probably be part of Bike to Work Day and should include a thank you card.

Updates for Other Projects from Partner Organizations

- John Bare noted that the Bike DE Annual Spring Summit this year has been CANCELED until 2025.
- Paul Moser said that he and James Wilson made a presentation on Roundabouts in Traffic Design at a UD Civil Engineering course recently. They were well received and hope to be invited back for future classes.
- Paul mentioned that there is even discussion of a class on traffic design to be included in the UD Curriculum. Rob McCleary (former DelDOT Engineer and Bike DE Board member) has offered to write a new design guide including roundabouts for DelDOT.
- John noted that DelDOT and DE Bicycle Council have leftover funds in their program this year and invites new proposals for grants of feasibility studies (typically to towns and cities) for 2025 projects. The deadline for application is October 2024, but it is better to treat this as a September 1 deadline to allow for discussion of proposals. Proposals up to \$30,000 are possible.

Treasurer's Report

- There was no treasurer's report for this month.

Old and New Business

- JT Fleming asked if there were any plans to improve the trails in Redd Park above Newark Reservoir for commuting. He noted that there have been slight improvements for mountain biking recently, but they are not now planned as regular commuter routes as the group knew. Any potential plans can be discussed at a future meeting.

Minutes by Bob McBride