



February Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2025 (In-Person at WILMAPCO/Zoom Virtual Meeting)

Bob McBride called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

Member Attendees: Bob McBride (Chair), Mark Deshon, Karl Hassler (Treasurer), Jacquee Lukawski (Secretary), Aarti Arora, David Schultz, Michael Smith (Vice-Chair)

Membership Partners:

Paul Moser, DelDOT
Heather Dunigan, WILMAPCO
John Bare, Bike Delaware
Paula Martinson Ennis, City of Newark

Past/Upcoming Events

Bob suggested that we continue hosting FirstFriday rides starting in March; need to advertise two weeks prior. The FirstFriday postcards with QR codes will be posted in city park kiosks. David Schultz offered to help update the website.

Karl will check the insurance restrictions on the number of group rides are permitted per year.

Mark is contacting UD Police Department regarding scheduling the bike safety checkpoints with potential dates in April.

Updates on Projects

Newark Bicycle Plan update – Heather stated that they need photos of people bicycling around Newark. Heather will reach out to Mike Fortner regarding getting the next public meeting scheduled to review the updated bicycle plan.

Engineering Committee – Karl is scheduling a meeting and inviting partner liaisons to track progress on projects. Mark suggested that the committee address the missing signage on the Newark bikeways.

Treasurer Report

Karl reported that several members paid their dues in the past month, with three expenses for League of American Bicyclists membership, Amerispec insurance, and AKISMET anti-spam license.

Updates from Partner Organizations

Bike Delaware - John remarked that new Secretary of Transportation has been pretty bike-friendly. He indicated that plans for the Everyone Gets Home Safe summit are underway, potentially to be set for early May. Bike Delaware is working on the Safe Roads Act to reclassify roads as a functional use (expressways, collectors, local roads) and build them as “self-enforcing/self-explanatory” with infrastructure that require less street signs; for example, 35 miles per hour speed limit with physical construction that makes it harder to go over that speed.

DelDOT – Mark Lutz is new Chief Engineer at DelDOT, formerly Chief Traffic Engineer. Georgetown-Lewes Trail contract with Federal Highway Administration is likely to be honored. Newport River Trail and South Little Creek Road projects are uncertain due to current government funding issues.

Old and New Business

Member survey for Meeting times/places

Meeting schedule for 2025:

Feb. Hybrid (Wilmapco/Zoom) at 4:30

Mar. Zoom at 7:00

Apr. Hybrid (Wilmapco/Zoom) at 4:30

May Zoom at 7:00

June in-person only mtg at Newark Bike Project at 4:30 with ride following

July Zoom at 7:00

Aug. Hybrid (Wilmapco/Zoom) at 4:30

Sep. Zoom at 7:00

Oct. Hybrid (Wilmapco/Zoom) at 4:30

Nov. Zoom at 7:00

Dec. Hybrid (Wilmapco/Zoom) at 4:30 (enables holiday celebration)

Review of Accomplishments 2024 and discussion of Goals for 2025 (See Below)

Need for more members to get involved in projects, re-starting the Communications committee.

Bob suggested that we hold off on the bike parking project as it's not gotten much traction in past years.

Adjourned at 5:30 pm

Meeting notes by Jacquee Lukawski

Next meeting March 20, 2025

Will be held on Zoom at 7:00 PM

BikeNewark Accomplishments in 2024

- Maintained membership of 42 individuals, losing seven former members but gaining seven others.
- Completed our information-kiosk project, which included installation by the City of Newark in four locations (Phillips Park, the junction of the Hall and Pomeroy Trails, Olan Thomas Park, and Hillside Park) with the addition of Newark Bikeways and *City of Newark Area Recreation Amenities* maps created by BikeNewark.
- Highlighted National Bike Month in May with our annual Bike to Work Day event on the campus of the University of Delaware, in coordination with event partners City of Newark, UD, DelDOT, Newark Bike Project, and Delaware Commute Solutions. About 75 participants attended the event.
- Partnered with University of Delaware Police, DelDOT, and Newark Bike Project to hold three successful bike-safety events on campus, during which about 70 sets of bike lights were installed, about 20 bike helmets were given and fitted, and bicycle-safety information was distributed.
- Organized and held six First Friday Rides community events—slow group rides that are meant to encourage those of all ages to enjoy bicycling and practice good group-riding etiquette.
- Supported A. I. Whoo on its University of Delaware–hosted Newark Outdoor Recreation information project, which involved creation of a website and installation of associated outdoor signage with QR codes. The website utilizes the BikeNewark-created *City of Newark Area Recreation Amenities* map, which coordinates with the Newark Bikeways low-stress network.
- Assisted in the efforts of WILMAPCO and City staff to update the *2014 Newark Bicycle Plan*, and a member made presentations to The Newark Partnership and Rotary Club about the update project.
- Supported the Newark Arts Alliance’s inaugural “Garden Tour by Bike” event with bike-route map.
- Distributed information and talked with attendees at the annual Newark Community Day in September.
- Supported John R. Downes Elementary School for its annual Bike to School Day celebration in May.
- Supported John R. Downes Elementary School during its DelDOT-led day of bike rodeos—practical bicycle-safety sessions for children.
- Supported the Newark Center for Creative Learning’s Greenfest event.
- Supported the Delaware State Parks’ trail-information days for White Clay Creek State Park.
- Members participated in planning committees/discussions for the following projects/topics:
 - South College Avenue gateway
 - Newport-to-Newark off-road trail
 - Newark to Lums Pond bike access
- Members participated in (and continue on) The Newark Partnership.
- A member participated (and continues) on the City of Newark’s Transportation Improvement District (TID) Committee.
- A member participated (and continues) on the City of Newark’s Conservation Advisory

Committee.

Compilation by Mark Deshon

DRAFT BikeNewark Goals for 2025

1) Continue development of final phase of Newark Bikeways and way finding signage.

Oversee installation/maintenance of way finding signage for Central and South Bikeway.
Develop online destination resources (through A. I. Whoo and/or others) for Bikeway users

2) Assist in revision/update of 2014 Newark Bicycle Plan in coordination with WILMAPCO and the City of Newark.

Assist WILMAPCO and City Staff at public information meetings
Develop a volunteer corps to respond to requests for assistance in collecting data or for help in analysis and evaluation of Bicycle Plan topics for update.
BikeNewark Engineering Committee to assist with reviewing technical needs

3) Assist in planning phase of improvements to South College Ave from I--95 to Main Street.

Work with NCC Planning Dept on Bikeways designation for areas outside of Newark limits on committees or through public information sessions
Assist with DELDOT and City of Newark planning groups
BikeNewark Engineering Committee to assist with reviewing needs/concerns

4) Provide bike advocacy- and bike safety-related public events in cooperation with partner organizations.

Organize 4 Bike Safety Sessions on UD Green during the year
Participate in Bike DE and other conferences about bicycle and pedestrian safety
Explore creating information resources and/or conferences about Bike Safety in elementary schools in Newark
Participate in TNP or City events for general public events and others
Plan to Co-Sponsor Newark Family Bike Festival Bike in 2026 with another organization such as NCCL-School
Participate in WCCSP Trail Sharing and other events as invited
Present information at Newark Community Day on safety and participate in other presentations/events focusing on Bicycling

5) Create safety--training publication, video, and online materials for:

- Delaware Avenue Bikeway. And other Bikeway segments
Create Full videos of Bikeway travel for training and publicity uses
Create Additional information to accompany videos on local resources
- Bicycling to school or work safely using Newark Bikeways low-stress network.
Bike to Work Day 2025
Bike to School Day
Elementary School Bike Rodeo at Downs Elementary School and others
Scheduled First Friday/Saturday Rides on Newark Bikeways
Presentations at Community Organizations about BikeNewark

7) Seek opportunities to sponsor or co--sponsor events with partner other related organizations, with emphasis on sub--communities within Newark on cycling.

Arts and Cultural Organizations such as Newark Arts Alliance
Economic Development such as TNP Economic Enhancement Committee

8) Explore offering Bicycling Instruction to groups using League American Bicyclist Curricula or other established national curricula by:

Developing Instructor Resources for teaching classes

Identifying potential target groups to participate in classes

Beginning balance 1/17/2025		\$ 3,196.29	\$ (0.00)	\$ 3,196.29
				0.00
Additions:				
1/31/2025	Interest	0.02		0.02
1/16/2025	K Monahan -Membership		10.00	10.00
1/16/2025	M Smith -Membership		10.00	10.00
1/17/2025	D Sauders -Membership		10.00	10.00
1/17/2025	F Kappel -Membership		10.00	10.00
1/21/2025	R Gomes de Oliveira -Membership		10.00	10.00
1/21/2025	H Lester -Membership		10.00	10.00
1/24/2025	S McBride -Membership		10.00	10.00
1/24/2025	R McBride -Membership		10.00	10.00
1/24/2025	R McBride -Membership		50.00	50.00
1/25/2025	W Trout -Membership		10.00	10.00
1/27/2025	D Leipold -Membership		5.00	5.00
1/27/2025	S Shah -Membership		10.00	10.00
1/28/2025	L Starnes -Membership		10.00	10.00
1/29/2025	S vanHorne -Membership		10.00	10.00
2/6/2025	R Moore -Membership		10.00	10.00
2/7/2025	D Weile -Membership		10.00	10.00
2/20/2025	Transfer PayPal-WSFS	180.67	(180.67)	
Total additions		180.69	14.33	195.02
Deductions:				
1/21/2025	2025 LAB membership	75.00		75.00
1/21/2025	2025 Insurance - Amerispec	487.00		487.00
2/14/2025	2025 AKISMET Anti-spam license [1]	18.00		18.00
various	PP fee		14.33	
Total deductions		580.00	14.33	594.33
Surplus (deficit)		(399.31)	0.00	(399.31)
Ending balance 2/20/2025		\$ 2,796.98	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,796.98