



March Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2025 (Zoom Virtual Meeting)

Bob McBride called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Member Attendees: Bob McBride (Chair), Mark Deshon, Karl Hassler (Treasurer), Jacquee Lukawski (Secretary), Aarti Arora, Michael Smith (Vice-Chair), Sophia Marianiello, Rodolfo Gomes de Oliveira

Membership Partners:

Heather Dunigan, WILMAPCO
John Bare, Bike Delaware

Past/Upcoming Events

The March FirstFriday ride went well but was dark. Considering a Saturday during the day for darker months of the year.

Planning for FirstFriday Rides in 2025 – Fridays only or blended Fridays/Saturdays.

Bike Safety Checkpoints – April 1 10:00 am-1:30 pm, April 9 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

May 2025 BikeMonth Family Ride – Bob suggests working with Newark Partnership

Bike To Work Day – Friday, May 16 from 7:30-8:30 am. Bob to reach out to Newark Partnership for collaboration.

Other Rides or Events to consider for 2025:

Karl is looking into Creek Fest at White Clay State Park

Bike to School Day – DelDOT is working with Downes Elementary School to organize, may combine with a Bike Rodeo.

Updates on Projects

Newark Bicycle Plan update – working on a public workshop, potentially in early May to kick off Bike Month

Engineering Committee – First meeting with Karl as Chair was on March 7 and they are updating the project tracking sheet and plan to meet every two months. In the future, project updates may be shared publicly on the website. A Google sheet is managed for missing bike signage in the city.

A BikeNewark Resources Guide postcard has been developed with a QR code that links back to the website. Additionally, Mark made some business cards with information.

Treasurer Report

Karl reported that there were three memberships and two donations. We also received a donation from Bike Delaware. The ending balance is \$2,851.91.

Updates from Partner Organizations

Bike Delaware – John reported that they are collaborating with the DelDOT Delaware Bicycle Council to review laws related to bicycles and motor vehicles. Settled on a date for the Everyone Gets Home summit scheduled for Wednesday, June 18. Bob Brown went to the League of American Bicyclists summit in Washington, D.C. A Recreational Trails Program (RTP) was being discussed, which is controversial in terms of funding. First cycling fatality of the year in Delaware in Lewes on the Junction Breakwater trail. RAISE grants – Delaware had approximately \$56 million in grants for the completion of the Lewes-Georgetown trail, the Newport River trail and a connector trail in Dover that are in question right now.

WILMAPCO - Department of Transportation had a recent memo stating that any projects featuring bicycle facilities should have the funding pulled for bicycle improvements. Discretionary grants are either eliminated or paused.

Old and New Business

Discussion of final draft Goals for 2025. (See Below) and approval

Meeting times/places schedule for 2025 (all on Thursdays):

Mar. 20. Zoom at 7:00
Apr. 17 Hybrid (Wilmapco/Zoom) at 4:30
May 13 Zoom at 7:00
June 18 in-person only mtg at Newark Bike Project at 4:30 with ride following
July 17 Zoom at 7:00
Aug. 21 Hybrid (Wilmapco/Zoom) at 4:30
Sep. 18 Zoom at 7:00
Oct. 16 Hybrid (Wilmapco/Zoom) at 4:30
Nov. 20 Zoom at 7:00
Dec. 18 Hybrid (Wilmapco/Zoom) at 4:30 (enables holiday celebration)

Bob McBride adjourned the meeting at 7:52 pm.

- 1) Continue development of final phase of Newark Bikeways and way finding signage. Oversee installation/maintenance of way finding signage for Central and S. Bikeway. Develop online 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 for assistance in collecting data
or for help in analysis and evaluation of Bicycle Plan topics for update.

BikeNewark Engineering Committee will assist with reviewing technical needs

- 3) Assist in planning improvements to South College Ave from I--95 to Main Street.
Work with NCCounty Planning Dept on Bikeways outside of Newark
on committees or through public information sessions
Assist with DELDOT and City of Newark planning groups
BikeNewark Engineering Committee will assist with reviewing needs/concerns
- 4) Provide bike advocacy– and bike safety public events in cooperation with partner organizations.
Organize 4 Bike Safety Sessions on UD Green during the year
Participate in Bike DE and other 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 WCC StPark Trail Sharing and other events as invited
Present information at Newark Community Day on safety and participate in other public 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

- 6) 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
- 7) 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
- 8) Create a new Committee to focus on public communication concerns
What we do not do well- communicate what we have accomplished
Need partners in community organizations
Need to find a way to integrate more partners in activities
To Develop. A set of goals and set of objectives
Create a linked meeting+ ride to discuss outreach and other issues
Before School year ends as part of BikeMonth and again in June
for locals
Dave Shultz volunteered to organize.

Notes 1) Need to bring up about 2yrs of installation and maintenance for signage
Engineering committee to help

- 4) UDPD has new person taking over the liaison position we need to work
Jacquee has some acquaintances in the UDPD who might help
And she will help with UD Safety liaison as she can

Rides/Events Calendar from QR codes were helpful in Charlotte NC
QR code pointing toward the [BikeNewark.org](https://www.bikeweb.org/) resources page which lists
local resources as well as some others

Newark Parks & Rec webpage does not normally outlink from City Resources
but it does this with BikeNewark resources.
Paula is willing to discuss more cooperation with Parks & Rec in this.

We agreed to abandon these proposals as goals in 2025

- old 6) Develop bike-parking needs assessment for the entire Newark community.
Includes retro-fitting locations to upgrade for needed bike parking
Includes seeking funding to help fund new bike parking

Bike Share Project Advocacy

Additional Ideas not covered in the drafted goals

Ideas from Charlotte NC

- Events include social, policy and critical mass (ride) in evenings

- Urban walks are also sometimes planned for policy makers and residents

- 2x month lazy Sunday rides

- Partnered with Recyclery (like Newark Bike Project) for classes in Bicycling

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

Bike Newark Financial Activity Statement

Beginning balance 3/21/2025		\$ 2,851.91	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,851.91
Additions:				
3/21/2025	Donation - Bike Delaware	100.00		100.00
3/31/2025	Interest	0.03		0.03
3/25/2025	Dontion - W Trout		5.00	
4/3/2025	Membership - J Hite		10.00	
4/17/2025	Transfer PayPal-WSFS	13.53	(13.53)	0.00
Total additions		113.56	1.47	115.03
Deductions:				
3/24/2025	Reimb for cards+ resource flyers - FedEx	40.66		40.66
various	PP fee		1.47	
Total deductions		40.66	1.47	42.13
Surplus (deficit)		72.90	0.00	72.90
Ending balance 4/17/2025		\$ 2,924.81	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,924.81