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November Meeting Minutes November 16, 2017

Mark Deshon called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Member attendees: Mark Deshon (Chair), Karl Hassler, Bob McBride (Treasurer), Lester Stein (Secretary), Ian Peters, Tom Price

Partner liaison attendees:

WILMAPCO and Newark Bike Project: Heather Dunigan

Bike Delaware: John Bare

City of Newark: Nate Graber (Police) and Robert Sharpe (Police)

DelDOT: Paul Moser

University of Delaware: Pat Ogden (Police)

Guest: Chip Kneavel (DelDOT)

Adoption of meeting minutes from October 19, 2017

There is one change to be made to the October minutes. The talking point for the mayor should have said "November" and not "October." A motion was made and seconded to approve the October 19, 2017, minutes as amended. There was no discussion. Motion passed.

Financial Report as of October 31, 2017

Bob McBride reported that the opening balance was \$526.85. Since the last report, there has been no income, and we've incurred no expenses. The ending balance was \$526.85. Karl Hassler asked Bob if he had checked to make sure that this month's opening balance is the same as last month's closing balance. Rob McBride said that it is. A motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

Voting on adoption of BikeNewark 2018 goals (see page 4)

There was some discussion and minor changes suggested, which have been incorporated. A motion was made to approve the goals for 2018 with amendments and was seconded. Motion passed, and the goals have been approved.

LAB Bicycle Friendly Community application status

Heather Dunigan reported not much progress since last meeting. The completed application should be done by end of year so it can be submitted to the City and BikeNewark for review. She will be asking for input on certain sections. The City's status as "Bicycle Friendly" needs to be

renewed in 2018, and we are hoping to attain “Silver” status. As a state, Delaware has dropped from #3 to #7 in LAB’s Bicycle Friendly status report.

Review of second fall Bike Central event – Paul Moser reported that this event was held yesterday near the intersection of Delaware Avenue and South College Avenue near the bike racks. It seemed like a good location, as there was a lot of foot traffic between classes. We gave away 16.5 sets of bike lights. Pat Ogden said that UD police have 250 sets of lights to give to bicyclists who don’t have lights. BikeNewark needs to prepare earlier for spring Bike Central dates. Mark will contact Ban to begin making arrangements.

Quick project status

Main Street trial contraflow lane evaluation – Mark Deshon reported that he asked Mark Farrell of the Newark Police to place BikeNewark on the City Traffic Committee’s agenda for December 19 in order to present our assessment of the contraflow lane. Paul said that DelDOT had made a video that is not usable, but the data will show the number of people on North College Avenue turning left or going straight through to the Trabant Patio area.

Orchard Road pop-up mini-circle evaluation – There was no formal report. However, Paul mentioned that DelDOT’s video of Orchard road shows if traffic has made it thru the circle or if there was a problem. It will also an approximate rate of speed through the circle.

Downes Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant – Chip Kneavel of DelDOT reported that the recent SRTS workshop had about 25 people in attendance. Three options were presented to the public. Option #1 (painted bike-lane buffer with mid-block crossing island) was the most popular choice. The SRTS committee will need to meet with Newark Traffic Committee over a parking issue between Church Street and Nottingham Road.

“Pomeroy Connector” - This trail is currently a utility easement that runs from Creek Road (near the northern terminus of the Pomeroy Trail) to Fremont Road in Fairfield Crest. During a recent City of Newark budget meeting, a budget was not approved at this time, but the City Council unanimously voted to move budget money for this project from the 2019 to the 2018 budget. BikeNewark is certain that more people would use this trail if it were completed. Parks & Rec is responsible for this project.

Report on any New Traffic Committee activity

There was no report.

Report on any new Downtown Newark Partnership design committee activity

There was no report.

Committee Updates

Engineering – Mark reported on the committee’s Nov 3 meeting. Jeff Riegner (Whitman, Requardt & Associates) spoke with them on transportation issues around the new train station and STAR Campus. There will be 60 covered bike parking spaces included at the new train station. Bike parking near the History Museum is not included in the project, but we think there should be a

bike-parking amenity there. The City and DelDOT need to collaborate on this. Heather suggested that the committee invite a UD official to meet with BikeNewark. The committee also discussed signage design for a central Newark bike loop based on a proposed new Delaware MUTCD design from DelDOT. Tim Filasky thinks this should go through Newark Traffic Committee and that the three council members in whose areas the loop exists should be included in discussions.

Education and Encouragement – There was no report.

Safety and Enforcement – Tom Price reported that he recently sent an email to schedule a meeting. One topic to be discussed is signage for the pedestrian scramble on Main Street at North College Avenue.

Evaluation Committee – Ian Peters reported there was a brief meeting after the Engineering Committee meeting about a WILMAPCO survey and a “report card” for BikeNewark. He announced that he had received a newly issued transportation survey from UD. Paul said that DelDOT has some remaining funds for a traffic survey.

Membership and Volunteer Coordination – There was no report.

Communications – There was no report.

One talking point to suggest to Mayor Sierer for December City Council meeting

We felt that the Mayor should update City Council on the construction of the new covered bike-parking amenity on Main Street at the Pomeroy Trail.

Old or new business – UD Police Chief Pat Ogden brought up the topic of a bikeshare project. Ban Phommachanh from UD Parking had been working on this a few years ago. Pat said he had attended an undergrad class, members of which having given a presentation on bike-sharing. This was in the works at the time of the fatal accident on the Trabant Patio. Mark said that he feels this kind of project should be coordinated with City and UD for areas throughout the city for bikeshare stations.

Mark asked about whether to have a December meeting and is open to suggestions about possibly having an abbreviated regular meeting followed by something to celebrate the end of our first year in existence as BikeNewark. It was suggested that we could meet at the Newark Bike Project, have a short business meeting, and invite other bike partners and community members to a celebration. In Heather’s absence next month, Tom indicated he could arrange to open the venue for this event.

Our next monthly meeting will be announced after confirming the date, time and place.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Minutes taken by Lester Stein

2018 Goals

Signage

- Evaluate addition of “Except Bicycles” signage on Ray Street at New London Road and McKees Lane at Cleveland Avenue for contra-flow bike travel.
- Add “Except Bicycles” signage to current prohibitive turn signage on Amstel Avenue at Orchard Road.
- Develop signage for low-stress Newark Bikeway central loop.

Sharrows

- Add greenbacked sharrows in both lanes as part of plan for Main Street pave and rehab project.
- Add sharrows southbound through the underpass on Casho Mill Road. There is currently a bike lane that simply disappears at the underpass without direction for cyclists.
- Re-mark sharrows on the one-way section of New London Road between the CSX tracks and Cleveland Avenue.

Bike Lanes

- Add bike lanes on South College Avenue in both directions where needed, remove 15 parking spaces to reduce potential conflicts with pedestrians on the narrow sidewalk.

More Complex Infrastructure Improvements

- Convert gravel utility easement to all-weather surface from Creek Road to Fremont Road in Fairfield Crest (“Pomeroy Connector”)—*currently in Parks & Rec budget for completion.*

Potential Long-Range Infrastructure Improvements

- Install mini-circles on Orchard Road at Winslow and Sunset.
- Add 5-ft. bike lanes on Hillside Road if possible.
- Improve pedestrian/bicycle connections across bridge over Amtrak lines, specifically southbound attachment.
- On STAR Campus, ensure there will be on- and off-road connections to all destinations.
- Suggest a study of the South Chapel Street/Lovett Street intersection for the potential of a four-way stop with a yellow “Yield to Pedestrians” sign.
- Study McKees Lane for potential connectivity.
- Contact Matt Buckley and the City to consult about a project to align Wyoming Road intersection at South Chapel Street and maybe add buffered bike lanes between there and Marrows Road, as appropriate given the enormous width of the road.