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February Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2019

Bob McBride called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Member attendees: Bob McBride (Chair), Helga Huntley (Co-Chair), Karl Hassler (Treasurer), Dave Saunders (Secretary), Mark Deshon, Karen Rosenberg

Partner liaison attendees:

Bike Delaware: John Bare

City of Newark: Polly Sierer (Mayor), Mike Fortner (Planning & Development), Ofc. Greg D'Elia (Police), Ofc. Morgan Fountain (Police)

University of Delaware: Ofc. Harley Angelozzi (Police), Ofc. Jenifer Ceja (Police)

WILMAPCO and Newark Bike Project: Heather Dunigan

Mayor's Fun Ride

Mayor Polly Sierer proposed that BikeNewark take on organization of the ride with a name change to "BikeNewark Fun Ride." This ride raises \$5-10k, which goes to the Newark Department of Parks and Recreation for bicycle infrastructure. There was general agreement that this is an appropriate activity for BikeNewark but concern that we may not have sufficient resources. It was agreed to gather more information and review the matter at the March meeting.

- The date that had been set, Saturday, June 1, conflicts with UD graduation. After discussion of several spring and fall dates, consensus was reached to reschedule the ride for Saturday, September 7, 2019. It is a mid-morning ride. This would supplant the First Friday Ride for September.
- Polly would spearhead the fundraising with the expectation that past sponsors are likely to continue. The main sponsor has been Atlantic Realty.
- BN must be able to handle funding through donations and signup fees as a nonprofit and provide receipts for tax deduction. Newark Bike Project, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is willing to be the conduit for this purpose. Seeking 501(c)(3) status for BN was discussed as well, including the possibility of donated legal service.
- We must know how much Parks and Recreation is willing to be involved and to coordinate with BN on spending the funds. Polly will check on this point.
- There would be a permit application, some costs going to Newark Police Department and a few other costs such as helmet, bike giveaway, and water. Polly will bring budget information to the March meeting.
- Polly volunteered to chair the ride organizing committee. Mark Deshon suggested that, if she has the time and the inclination, Lauri Webber would be a good person to lead this

effort.

Bike to Work Day

Bike to Work Day this year is on Friday, May 20. Mike Fortner asked about funding the event, saying about \$300 would be needed. Proceeds from the Mayor's Fun Ride provided this baseline funding last year. Polly said that it would be taken care of this year as well, through Parks & Recreation.

Bike Central*

This spring's Bike Central event is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Delaware Avenue at The Green.

Ride of Silence

Heather Dunigan reminded that the Ride of Silence in May, which BN had organized but was rained out last year, is an event worthy of support.

Continued Discussion of BikeNewark Goals for 2019

We discussed the desire to have more direct involvement with UD students. There was a suggestion that we get involved in UD's summer NSO program. After some discussion, the consensus was that it would be more advantageous for us to be involved with Activities Night, at the beginning of the fall semester.

Newark Partnership

Its bylaws have been accepted by the state, with nonprofit status coming soon. Its Nonprofit Engagement Committee could use a representative from BN. The committee, headed by Freeman Williams and Carla Grygiel, meets every three weeks at 9 a.m. at Newark Senior Center. The next Newark Futures Workshop will be on May 22 and is all about nonprofits. The Downtown Newark Partnership will be sunsetted, to be replaced by the Newark Partnership.

Newark Bikeways Signage

Mark reported on the Engineering Committee's planning. There has been good progress. Another round of review and refinement is in the works.

Newark Elections

There was consensus to again survey candidates' positions on bicycling. This may be coordinated with Bike Delaware. Mark and Helga Huntley will work on it in collaboration with John Bare. Election is April 9. The debate date (March 19) may be relevant.

First Friday Rides

The initial 2019 ride is scheduled for March 1. The ride will end at the Deer Park.

Bike Delaware

- The Walkable Bikable Summit is May 2. Experts from the Netherlands working with DelDOT will participate in the summit. Volunteers from BN are sought to help with event.
- Bike DE Trail Fest will be Sept 21, 2019
- National Trails Day is first Saturday in June.
- April 4, 5, and 6 are the dates of the Philadelphia Mid-Atlantic Greenway & Trails Summit. Costs \$100 for the three-day event.

Treasurer's report

Karl Hassler has changed the report format. Balances were \$598.88 in WSFS account, \$822 in PayPal. Going forward, funds will be transferred from PayPal to WSFS account as they are contributed.

Volunteer Coordinator

Helga asked if lists and information related to membership (at various levels) and volunteer interests were on a shared drive. Mark affirmed that, yes, there are several lists on the BN drive that need to be pulled together in some way. She said that a list of volunteer needs would be helpful so that we will be better positioned to recruit new people.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Minutes were taken by Dave Saunders, with substantial contributions from Bob McBride and Mark Deshon.

**Editor's note: This item was not actually discussed at the meeting.*