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January Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2020

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

(Attendance was not recorded.)

Discussion of BikeNewark Accomplishments for 2019 and Setting Goals for 2020

Outreach activities

- Safety events that already exist are a good way to do outreach.
- First Friday Rides and Bike to Work Day seem to be sufficient activity-based efforts.
- Newark Police Athletic League (PAL) events are being organized for elementary school events and PAL youth camp. One event is sponsored each month for youth. PAL events need some input from the national organization increasing planning time.

City of Newark does not see further events needed. Bike content can be included in:

- Educational programs for before- and after-school care programs
- Family Fun night(s)
- Emerson Bridge opening (if completed on time) in fall
- Improvements at Newark Reservoir Park will play a part

2020 Goals

Suggestion from Dave Saunders via email for a goal for next year:

Begin planning and design for a mostly parklands, mostly off-road multi-use paved-ring around Newark, incorporating existing Hall and Pomeroy Trails with a new 1.5-mile section along Christina Creek between West Main and Elkton Rd. (roughly paralleling Casho Mill Road).

Community Bike Days

Changes this year brought fewer participants. We should focus on quality of the event. An analysis of differences between CBD of the past and our present event would be helpful. Check on how previous events were organized. Nightly events were too many. We could have fewer (or none), depending on what we can support.

Bicycle-Friendly Community

Newark's Bicycle Friendly Community feedback from the League of American Bicyclists (LAB) included a recommendation to expand the Safe Routes to School program to include more schools.

Downes Elementary School is the only participant at present. There was a suggestion to expand to Newark Charter School, West Park Elementary School, and others. We might want to expand services to West Park Elementary School this year. WILMAPCO can help if we can get in the door with the school and district staff. The funding is for public schools only.

LAB's recommendations also suggested that more LAB-sanctioned cycling classes be offered. John Bare is attending LAB Local Cycling Instructor (LCI) Bike Course to become an updated instructor. Our present LAB liability insurance does not allow BikeNewark to offer bike courses. This would need to be changed (probably with increased costs).

Police departments do instruction/skills training by way of "bike rodeos," which are prescribed by national organizations. An LAB LCI cycling-skills course is for adults and demands two full days with classroom and practical sessions. This demands a strong commitment and has not been popular.

We agree to set as goal for next year to explore offering bike classes as opposed to offering instruction.

Insurance and Events

Twenty-six club rides per year for members and guests are allowed under the basic LAB insurance.

Special social rides will cost about \$6.00/person outside regular club rides.

Membership and Dues

We need to look at BikeNewark membership and have a more specific definition of how we count members. LAB insurance does not strictly define membership and is vague about who are guests. BikeNewark's bylaws do not extend further than activity and events presently. Perhaps a special category of (paid) or voluntary membership that goes beyond participation only could be added. People should be able to declare themselves as a member after participation. A member form has been developed but is not used consistently.

BikeNewark has no membership dues at present, but dues would be an indication of support and membership. Paying dues could be made worthwhile for later discounts and memberships. We could start with a nominal amount for membership with small discounts later.

Membership goal for next year—Do not make membership automatic, but ask for active participation or modest fee to join.

Heather reminded us that we cannot have any restrictions on membership attendance to continue meeting at WILMAPCO.

Helga will work on this in light of bylaw revision needed for the future with a view toward simplification for future bylaws changes.

Membership Volunteer Coordinator

Membership should focus on database, which could be done by a student. Volunteer coordinator should be selected to work with people.

Newark Transportation Improvement District

TID City of Newark consultant (and Newark Planner) Mike Fortner has been doing a land-use projection that impacts traffic up to year 2045. DelDOT will use this model to plan traffic futures. About two-thirds of Newark within city limits is in the scope of this planning. The goal is to develop a plan that will be approved by the City at the end of the process.

Newark Low-Stress Bikeways Project

At the most recent Engineering Committee, meeting plans have been finalized for three of the proposed seven new bikeways. Adam has digitized this information into GIS, which could be used for future apps. Heather noted that this could be easily imported into Google Maps and linked.

A grant request was made to White Clay Bicycle Club (WCBC) to fund purchase of bikeway signs. Other opportunities for funding by outsider funders should be explored. We can begin funding the next set of signs for this phase from internal funds, but we must order more signs for future expansions, and these will be at additional cost.

Treasurer's Report

(no report recorded)

Minutes by Bob McBride