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## October Meeting Minutes October 15, 2020 (Virtual Meeting)

Bob McBride called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

**Member attendees:** Bob McBride (Chair), Helga Huntley (Vice-Chair), Dave Saunders (Secretary), Karl Hassler (Treasurer), Mark Deshon, Karen Rosenberg, and Michael Brothers

**Partner liaison attendees:**

City of Newark: Mike Fortner\* (Planning & Development)

WILMAPCO and Newark Bike Project: Heather Dunigan

DelDOT: Paul Moser

University of Delaware: Cpl. Alaina Battle (Police)

Bike Delaware: John Bare

**Guests:** Jeff Riegner (Whitman, Requardt & Associates) and Savannah Sipes (UD Graduate Student Government), and Dave Schultz

\*also a BikeNewark member

### **Bike Share for Newark?—A Preliminary Discussion**

Ban Phommachanh did some planning for a UD-researched bike-share plan, but the project was suspended after a tragic bike accident. Savannah Sipes is interested in renewing consideration. Remarks included that

- Some demand for bike availability from hotels near the UD campus has been expressed.
- Center of activity locations have changed since the original plans (train station, STAR Campus).
- On-campus and off-campus locations are desirable.
- City of Wilmington has a bike-share program running.
- We would be on the small city size for this. Spartanburg, S.C., is the smallest city that Jeff Reigner knows about that has a bike share.
- A bike-lending library is a possible alternative that the Newark Bike Project has considered.

### **Newark Bikeways Project Update**

A follow-up letter was sent to the Mayor and City Council, providing update information about the signage project. A bid package has been delivered to the City for the next set of signs, but action has not been taken. We are awaiting further word from the City. Formal payment details have not

been worked out with the City. It may be advisable to verify that our intent and ballpark price are known and understood.

## **Delaware Bicycle Council Grant Application Update**

Delaware Bicycle Council contacted the City and BikeNewark for more specific ideas about what was proposed. The City of Newark and BikeNewark amended the proposal to include specific protected bike lanes and other possible amenities. Award decision is expected in December.

## **Transportation Planning Updates**

- ***Newark Transportation Improvement District***

A meeting was held yesterday, October 14, for public comments.

- ***New Castle County Bicycle Plan***

Should we consider advocating a way to get from the Christina/Hares Corner/New Castle area to Newark by bike for employment? Some projects are underway now:

- The City of Newport is planning a connector for the Jack Markel trail.
- A plan has been adopted to have a route from Newark to New Castle. On the WILMAPCO site under the plans and reports tab find interactive maps on this. Pinch points at I-95 and DE 1 make it difficult to use Route 273 now. But much of the route has good shoulders and can be used.

Connection to the Jack Markell Trail from Route 273 just outside of old New Castle allows connection to Wilmington downtown by bike trail.

- ***A Delaware U.S. Bike Route?***

There is currently no part of the U.S. Bicycle Routes system in Delaware, but the Maryland DOT is working on a U.S. Bike Route 201 through Cecil County to the Delaware boundary. This is a natural place to create Delaware's first U.S. Bike Route.

## **BikeNewark Upcoming Election of Officers**

The nomination period is now active through November 18. Nominees will be announced at the November partnership meeting. Refer to the email from BikeNewark for link to the nomination form. Anyone may nominate. Nominees must be Individual Members of BikeNewark.

## **New or Old Business**

- ***Designing Delaware Intersections for People***

John Bare reported for Bike Delaware that the rescheduled Walkable/Bikeable Delaware Summit—Designing Delaware Intersections for People—is set for Nov 19. Go to the Bike Delaware website (BikeDE.org) to sign up. The focus is on design of intersections for biking and walking, and one can suggest which intersection(s) should be analyzed. Jeff Reigner is participating in this as a local expert in planning. He thinks we need to analyze the Paper Mill Rd./Cleveland Ave./Chapel Street intersection. BikeNewark might want to enter some intersections as a group for discussion.

- ***Fatal car/bike accidents in Delaware***

BikeDelaware is working with the Delaware Office of Highway Safety to track bike/car fatal accidents, but since there are so few episodes, it is difficult to track them officially.

- ***Rittenhouse trail maintenance report***

Dave Saunders reported that 4x4 signposts are to be purchased by City of Newark (about 30) and set by volunteers. Newark Charter School staff has pledged to replace a washed-out bridge. Currently, downed trees are blocking the way in the section from Elkton Road to Barksdale Road.

### **Treasurer’s Report**

<b>Beginning balance 9/18/2020</b>		<b>\$ 6,638.19</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,638.19</b>
Additions:				
	9/30/20 Interest	0.14		0.14
				0.00
Total additions		0.14	0.00	0.14
Deductions:				
				0.00
Total deductions		0.00	0.00	0.00
Surplus (deficit)		0.14	0.00	0.14
<b>Ending balance 10/15/2020</b>		<b>\$ 6,638.33</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,638.33</b>

Adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

*Minutes by Dave Saunders*