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## December Meeting Minutes December 17, 2020 (Virtual Meeting)

Bob McBride called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Member attendees:** Bob McBride (Chair), Helga Huntley (Vice-Chair), Dave Saunders (Secretary), Karl Hassler (Treasurer), Mark Deshon, Karen Rosenberg, Brian Bahnson, Lauri Webber, Mike Fortner, Christine Schultz, Dave Schultz, and Paul Baumbach

**Partner liaison attendees:**

WILMAPCO and Newark Bike Project: Heather Dunigan

DelDOT: Paul Moser

University of Delaware: Ofc. Bill Wentz (Police)

Bike Delaware: John Bare

Delaware Greenways: Adam Crosby

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

**Guest:** Jeff Riegner

\*also an Individual Member of BikeNewark

### **Delaware Bicycle Council Innovation in Infrastructure Grant**

A \$15,000 grant to explore engineering options for bicycle-infrastructure improvements along Wyoming Road has been awarded to the City of Newark. Envisioned are two-way protected bike lanes east of Chapel Street, realignment of the Chapel Street intersection, and signage and surface treatment west of Chapel for an advisory bike lane. Also to be considered is Peter Furth's suggested protected-intersection plan for Wyoming and Library Roads from the recent intersection summit hosted by Bike Delaware. A mockup trial on a portion of the Wyoming Road project could be undertaken through a UD/DelDOT partnership.

### **Delaware Greenways Trail Amenity Grant Application**

Consensus was reached to apply for a grant to fund our Newark Bikeways wayfinding phase 2 signage—the North, Northwest, and West Bikeways segments. This would allow more of our currently available funds to be applied to phase 3 signage.

### **Newark Bikeways Project Update**

The City of Newark has chosen a signage vendor and is proceeding with “high-performance” signage production at a cost of \$3,017, which is within the range of BikeNewark’s agreement earlier this year to purchase from the City.

### **Trail COVID-Monitoring Project Update**

City approval was granted to the COVID Vision project to install cameras along the James F. Hall Trail for a two-week period in early December. A spreadsheet summarizing trail usage will be delivered to BikeNewark. This project has New Castle County CARES Act funding.

### **BikeNewark Installation of Officers for 2021-22**

The following officers were elected to two-year terms commencing January 1, 2021. Each received 16 votes.

- Robert McBride, Chair
- Karen Rosenberg, Vice Chair
- Christine Schultz, Secretary
- Karl Hasler, Treasurer

### **Transportation Planning Updates**

The next phase in the Newark Transportation Infrastructure District (TID) planning is to identify the specific transportation projects to be included. It is expected that the DelDOT proposed list will be posted at <https://newarkde.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=95&Type=&ADID=>. The “level of service” (LOS) criteria have been heavily used, despite the working-group specification that it not be used. LOS focuses on motorist experience, disregarding bicycling and pedestrian issues. Many meeting participants expressed a desire to speak up for our interests in as strong and timely way as possible. It was suggested that the Engineering Committee get involved in this planning now.

### **The Newark Partnership’s Project Planning: New Sources for Funding Amenities**

The Newark Partnership will soon hire an Executive Director. It is anticipated that they will be setting up funding for nonprofits such as BikeNewark for community amenities projects, which could become valuable for completion of our Newark Bikeways wayfinding project.

### **Video Project: What is a Sharrow? (highlighting Main St. sharrows)**

The project is nearing the final cut after a final technical fix is accomplished. We will be discussing a partnership with the Newark Police Department as well as other potential media sources regarding the dissemination of the video.

### **BikeNewark Goals for 2021 – A Preliminary Discussion**

The following goal ideas emerged from the discussion.

- Complete Newark Bikeways Phase 2 wayfinding-signage installation.
- Begin discussions and planning of Newark Bikeways Phase 3 signage needs.
- Advocate for bicycle-related improvement of Wyoming Road corridor.
- Reinstate group rides.
- Plan for a Bike to Work Day, COVID-19 allowing.

- Participate in South College Avenue alternative transportation–project planning.
- Advocate for wayfinding posts for Rittenhouse Trail.
- Lobby for elimination of the sunset clause in the “Delaware yield law” (part of the Bicycle Friendly Delaware Act). A State legislature bill is moving forward on this.
- Improve safety at the Pomeroy Trail/Creek Road intersection. Add and/or alter signage and right-of-way situation, improve visibility.

### **Treasurer’s Report**

Previous balance was \$6,682.21. The new balance is \$6,706.23, having only added a donation for \$25 and a deduction of a small service fee by PayPal.

Adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

*Minutes by Dave Saunders*