

Newark Bicycle Committee
May 19, 2011, 4:00-5:00 pm
Wilmington Area Planning Council

Minutes

In attendance

Heather Dunigan
Mark Deshon
Charlie Emerson
Mike Fortner
Karl Hassler
Jeff Riegner
Bob Ruddy
George Stanko
Frank Warnock

Not in attendance

Anthony Aglio
Bob Bennett
Trevor Booz
Jim Grimes
Willett Kempton
Dan LaCombe
Rich LaPointe
Chris Richard
Arthur Wicks
Amy Wilburn
James Wilson

Introductions

The meeting convened at 4:00 pm. Introductions were made for the benefit of Karl Hassler, who joined the committee as a local bicycle commuter.

Bike Month and Bike-to-Work Day (May 20) (Mark Deshon)

- Mark said that everything is essentially ready for tomorrow's Bike-to-Work Day celebration. Mike Fortner has coordinated sponsors and Mark has arranged for the speakers and photographer.
- Committee members were encouraged to arrive at 7 am to set up. Participants should start arriving around 7:30, with speakers to begin shortly before 8.
- Dan LaCombe confirmed that DelDOT will bring a tent, T-shirts, and other giveaways. Frank Warnock will bring brochures, and Jeff Riegner will bring the Mayor's proclamation to put on display.

Downtown bike racks (Mike Fortner)

- Mike said the DelDOT-City agreement has been approved for on-street racks.
- Rich LaPointe asked the group about how the racks should be anchored. After some discussion, it was agreed that removable masonry anchors should be used for good holding power and the ability to remove the racks as needed for maintenance.

- The group also discussed rack layout. Rich agreed to install the racks based on APBP angle guidelines.
- Rich cannot establish a schedule for rack installation due to staffing issues within Public Works.

Newark Nite/Community Day (Mike Fortner)

- Newark Nite is Saturday, June 4 from 4:00 to 8:30 pm. The rain date is June 5.
- Mike will request a location near the Galleria.
- Frank confirmed that Bike Delaware will staff the event.
- Heather Dunigan will bring Newark Transportation Plan information.
- Dan will confirm whether DeDOT staff can attend and bring materials.

Newark Transportation Plan (Heather Dunigan)

- Heather said that the Plan advisory committee met on May 16 to review the draft. All Newark Bicycle Committee recommendations remain in the draft at this time. She said that the Delaware Avenue cycle track has been the most popular recommendation in the entire Plan. Bike boxes are also recommended. Although DeDOT has expressed the need to more closely study some of the Plan recommendations, it has not opposed any.
- The final workshop for the Plan will be held May 24 at 7 pm at the Newark Municipal Building. The Plan could go before City Council for adoption as early as June.
- Frank added that some Bike Delaware research has found pavement coloring that is guaranteed for ten years. This is promising for potential bike boxes and a “green lane” on Main Street. DeDOT could use those treatments as a durability test for the markings.

New business

- Charlie Emerson said that the Pomeroy Trail has been advertised! Bids are due June 21.
- Charlie also reported on a meeting to be held with Delaware State Parks on May 20 on a comprehensive off-road trail plan to incorporate Redd Park, White Clay Creek, Middle Run, and Fair Hill. Jeff noted that when the Pomeroy Trail is complete and those parks are connected, 120 miles of trails will be accessible from Main Street.
- Heather asked Charlie to coordinate with State Parks to count the Hall Trail before and after the opening of the Pomeroy Trail.

The meeting adjourned about 5:10 pm.