

Bike Delaware General Meeting Minutes

25 August, 2009

Called to Order: 6:15 PM

Present

Frank Warnock—President
Drew Knox—Vice President
Carol Ireland—Treasurer
Maria Wilburn—Secretary
Mark Deshon
Heather Dunigan—WILMAPCO
Sally Humphrey—Delaware Greenways
John Boyle—Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia

Conference Call

David Bennett

President's Report

- Leaders of the Amish Country Bike Tour in Dover have agreed to place a promotional card in every goody bag.
 - This will be a major test of the effectiveness of event presence.
- Frank pinned a poster (8x11) at Performance Bike with a card holder full of promo cards a few months ago.
 - Last checked this week and about half of the cards were gone.
- Bike DE membership stats
 - 112 active members
 - 30 Facebook followers
- Question of the effectiveness of maintaining Facebook:
 - It is worth maintaining because it reaches a different audience
 - John has offered to continue monitoring Facebook for us.
- Bike DE blog
 - How can Frank find out how many people have the blog fed to their homepage?
 - ◆ analytics.google.com is a free way to track website traffic, etc, with an administrator login.
 - Few postings; some people experience difficulty posting items
 - Even a few comments will earn us blog views and quotes in newspapers.
- 3-ft Passing Law
 - Passed in the Senate and will be introduced in the House during the next session
 - Bike DE officers will send out an Action Alert when this becomes relevant again.
- Complete Streets
 - First draft completed
 - Frank hopes to analyze this and include it in a study of DeIDOT's progress since the 2009 Bike Summit for the 2010 Bike Summit.

Treasurer's Report

- Current balance: \$1110.15

WILMAPCO Update

- First draft of the Complete Streets Policy published August 6.
 - Received input from the internal DelDOT committee and other organizations involved by direct request (see the list on page i).
 - Bike DE will be able to give further input
 - ◆ Heather asks that comments be optimistic and supportive of the strong points
 - Maria will compile comments from the list serve and send concise suggestions and compliments to DelDOT or the DBC
 - ◆ Heather will send a PDF of the policy to Maria, who will forward it to the list
 - ◆ Maria will request comments from the membership, to be sent to her by Friday, September 4.
 - ◆ Maria will prepare compiled comments by September 10.
- A public workshop will be held about the Capital Transportation Program on Wednesday, September 9.
- TIP funding
 - Bike/ped funding increased by 251% due to addition of stimulus projects; overall funding dropped 4%.
 - Some stimulus moneys carry over into 2010
 - 1/10 new projects were exclusively dedicated to bikes/pedestrians
 - Delaware ranked #3 nationwide for percentage of stimulus funds (12%) being spent on non-motorized projects
 - "Tiger Money" application opportunity was missed by bicycling advocates in DE (deadline is in about a month) and will probably be used for buses.

DBC Update

- Share the Road license plate
 - May or may not be used as a fundraiser, but price will most likely just cover the costs of producing it
 - Consideration requires that 200-300 express interest
 - Bike DE concerns:
 - ◆ Will a DBC member collect the names of interested people?
 - ◆ What is the cost? What would be the procedure for obtaining one?
 - Maria will obtain details from Amy.
 - Bike DE will act as messenger if the DBC will collect the names
- DBC may try to introduce a Vulnerable Persons Bill to the next General Assembly
 - Most basic form includes penalties for personal damage
 - ◆ some include guidelines for enforcement or even protections regarding property damage
 - "vulnerable persons" to include
 - ◆ at least bicyclists, pedestrians, joggers, equestrians, and buggies
 - ◆ may include motorcyclists, skateboarders, even construction workers or farm equipment

- Current Complete Streets Policy is an internal policy, not regulation
 - The DBC hopes to push for it to become regulation
 - This requires passing it through the General Assembly
- Amy met with Gov. Jack Markell on Aug 21.
 - All of the above topics were brought up with Markell
 - In addition, she brought up the proposal for a non-motorized crossing of the C&D Canal on the St. George's Bridge.
 - Markell is in favor of all proposals, but cannot officially give support without the advice of his chief strategist.
 - Amy sent a list of topics to Markell's chief strategist for review.

Incorporation Progress

- Delaware Greenways Initiative treasurer Glen Trudel has agreed to be pro bono incorporator of Bike Delaware
- Glen has sent to Sally a task list and relevant documentation to be completed
 - Sally will pass this information to the officers
 - Fill out basic forms and go for incorporation first
 - Obtain a tax ID number
- The officers and Sally will meet on Tuesday, September 8 at 6 PM to fill out the first forms
- Glen recommends an odd number, at least five, of directors on the Board of Directors.
 - To be discussed after the September 8 meeting
 - John has offered to be a "place holder" until a volunteer is found.
 - Mike Tyler of Sussex Cyclists?

C&D Canal Crossing Proposal

- 15-20 individual Bike DE members sent letters.
- Two petition-style letters have been sent with signatures obtained at the Delaware DoubleCross (~110 signatures) and the Shorefire Century (20-25).
 - Current goal: maintain pressure; individuals are encouraged to continue sending letters
- Re-opening of the outer two lanes of the St. George's Bridge
 - Recent bridge work involved structural work on the underside of the bridge
 - Lane closure and reopening has no relevance on obtaining non-motorized lanes.
- Cost estimation
 - DelDOT may be including striping and road maintenance in the cost estimation for the project, though these would occur with or without addition of bike lanes.
 - Cost estimation must be clarified.
- Amy is hoping to meet with CarolAnn Wicks
 - Hopes to clarify the concerns and costs, and get an idea of who makes the decision and when
- May have to settle for the low-cost, temporary option of "duckies" and a small curb

Upcoming Events and Event Presence

- No permission obtained to collect signatures at the Hagley Hike/Bike Event
- MS Expo
 - Saturday, Aug 29 from 10-12
 - Carol may send a request for volunteers
- Free trials with Constant Contact are available; may consider signing up.
- Heather has offered to include Bike DE cards at WILMAPCO information tables.
- Gov. Markell's Tour de Delaware
 - Markell hopes to keep it low-key this year
 - ♦ Active Bike DE members are probably invited, but invitations are limited
 - Planned for October 2, the day before the MS Bike to the Bay ride starts.
- The Newark Bicycle Committee is considering holding safety checkpoints in Newark

Potential Change of General Meeting Times

- One or two requests have been made for a later time, such as 7.
- A compromise of 6:30 has been proposed.
- How to decide?
 - Change the time for a trial period and gauge attendance
 - Vote online
 - Meeting Wizard (an online voting service)
- John will set up a Meeting Wizard vote with 6, 6:30, and 7 as options for the October 6 meeting.

Partnership with the Spinners Bike Repair

- Spinners is a mobile bike shop owned by Phil Woods
- Phil proposed that we sell vouchers for him and receive 10% of the profits
- Concerns:
 - How many partnerships can we form? How do we choose who to partner with?
 - Don't want to put ourselves in the position of sales person
 - May be less complicated once we are incorporated
- It was agreed that final decisions can be postponed until Bike DE is incorporated
- Frank will let Phil know that we will reconsider the proposal once we have become incorporated, and suggest that he present his proposal at the next meeting.

New Business/Old Business

- 2010 Bike Summit
 - Proposed for the 14th or 21st of October, 2010, in the afternoon at Clayton Hall (UD)

Meeting Adjourned: 8:03 PM

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 6, 2009; time TBA