

# **Bike Delaware General Meeting Minutes**

**October 6, 2009      Called to Order: 6:12 PM**

## Present

Frank Warnock—President  
Drew Knox—Vice President  
Carol Ireland—Treasurer  
Maria Wilburn—Secretary  
Amy Wilburn  
John Boyle  
James Wilson  
David Bennett  
Caroline Honse

- ♦ Approved the August 25 meeting minutes.

## **President's Report**

- Website and blog hits
  - About 20 hits per day on the blog
  - Spiked on October 1<sup>st</sup> and September 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - Tagging keywords in the articles will draw more hits
  - Caroline will help Frank manage blogs if needed.
- Update on Pedestrian Refuge Islands (“pork chops”) issue
  - The new policy requiring 4-5’ clearance is not often followed in the field.
  - At least two were redone
  - Most new construction (stimulus maintenance projects) along SR-4 only maintain 6” to 2’ clearance.
  - Actions:
    - Amy agreed to present a list to Anthony and Secretary Wicks at the next DBC meeting.
    - Frank will compile the list with photos and send to Amy.
    - Follow up on the projects and note the ones that are reversed.
    - Ask for a response and find out how this can be better enforced.
  - Rt 4 may be the exception since it is a stimulus project being done quickly.
- Event tabling
  - EMS event was not what it seemed: no one tabled the event, but we left cards
  - Ways to learn about and achieve better presence at future events:
    - “Out and About” magazine
    - Parent/family event publications
    - Thursday News Journal
    - State parks
    - Table bike shop sales events
- T-shirts for the Board of Directors (a donation from Frank)
  - Votes were taken to select a color; Frank will make the final order
  - Cost is \$10/shirt for the embroidery, plus cost of purchasing the shirts

## **Treasurer's Report**

- HOSTMYSITE quarterly fees are automatically charged to the account
- \$25 donation through BCGP not yet credited as of this meeting
- Bike Delaware may want to consider running a year-end donations campaign
  - Agenda item for next meeting

- Where Bike Delaware might expect to get money next year
  - Nemours
  - WCBC is low on money and will be able to give little or nothing this year
  - Caroline will bring information on grant applications to the next meeting.

## **WILMAPCO Update**

- “Walkable Community” workshops coming up
  - Raises disability awareness
- Rail-to-Trails Conservancy session
  - Going for 2010 transportation reauthorization
  - 3-4 communities are currently funded for improvements
  - Hope for funding next year for 50 communities at \$50 million each.
  - List of Active 2010 projects is on the WILMAPCO website: [www.wilmapco.org](http://www.wilmapco.org).
  - Senator Carper is on the Transportation Committee.
    - Hoping for Delaware Greenways, Bike DE, TMA Delaware, and the DBC to coordinate lobbying effort
    - Training sessions are available for lobbyists
  - About 18 months of leeway; the House has completed a draft already.
  - Actions:
    - Try to contact Bonnie Wu from the Wilmington office.
    - Frank agreed to coordinate lobbying efforts with Sally and invite others
    - Frank will post a news item about it on the blog.

## **DBC Update**

- Recapped the status of the 3-foot Passing Law (waiting for the House vote)
- Recapped the consideration of introducing a “Vulnerable Persons” law
  - Schaumann’s daughter is willing to lead this effort
  - Texas bill was passed by the legislature but vetoed by the governor
- Rick Barros will give a presentation about the “Idaho stop” at the next DBC meeting
  - “Idaho stop” defined: bicyclists treat stoplights as stop signs and stop signs as yields.
  - This may be placed as a lower priority until cyclists gain more acceptance.
- Amy spoke to the Driver’s Education Teacher’s Association and was received well.
- Still trying to work with the Insurance Commissioner’s office to include bicycle awareness in the Defensive Driving curriculum.
- Complete Streets update
  - To be discussed at the October 14 DBC meeting
  - Oversight and supervision will be discussed.
  - Still applicable to paving and rehabilitation projects.
  - Only applies to state-maintained roads
  - Timeline and expected effect:
    - Reconsideration of fully developed plans is encouraged despite exemption
    - Will affect most plans currently in the project development phase.
    - It may take 3-4 years before effects are fully seen
- Markell supports the C&D Canal crossing and plans to approach Wicks about it.
- The DBC is working with DEDO to promote bike tourism opportunities in Delaware.
- Use of “Sharrows” in Delaware
  - If not in the MUTCD, there are liability issues, and permission of the Federal Highway Commission is required before implementing them.
  - “Sharrows” are expected to be published in the MUTCD as a viable option this spring.

## **Incorporation Update**

- Timetable coming soon
- Incorporation documents have been filed and are being processed by our attorney, Glen Trudel
  - Will not include 501(c)3 status.
- Board of Directors for 2010, effective with incorporation:
  - President—Drew Knox
  - Vice President—Caroline Honse
  - Treasurer—Carol Ireland
  - Secretary—Maria Wilburn
  - Publicity Chair (new position)—Frank Warnock
  - Positions and officers to take them are open for comments
  - The Board is appointed by the attorney upon incorporation; the membership votes thereafter
- Fiscal year will be January to December
- Annual meetings will be held in February (first meeting of the year)
- BCGP will be the fiscal sponsor until non-profit status is gained.

### **Other Updates/Clarifications on the Complete Streets Policy**

- Bike Delaware's comments were submitted to Anthony and Jenifer, who agreed to consider them before submitting to the Governor on September 30.
- Public comment periods will be held at the discretion of the governor
- The DBC agreed the best course of action would be
  - Get it approved first as a policy and get it implemented
  - Push for regulation later and give it more time for careful vetting.
- Clarification: the executive order called for:
  - A general policy to be submitted by September 30
  - Specific plans of implementation to be submitted by individual divisions of DELDOT within a year of the signing of the order (by April, 2010)
- The policy will be a good topic to bring up at the 2010 Bike Summit.

### **Brochures**

- Drew has proposed distributing brochures in order to
  - Raise cycling awareness and educate the public about safe practices
  - Increase hits on the website
  - Provide something tangible and memorable for people to walk away with
- Samples of brochures were passed around
- Hope for 4-5 different brochures, each with a different focus
- Heather believes WILMAPCO will be willing to sponsor printing of the materials
- A subcommittee comprised of Drew Knox, David Bennett, and Caroline Honse will:
  - Discuss a membership fee (potentially contact Alex Doty for membership development advice)
  - Work on refining designs and writing content
  - Present options and lead a vote at the next meeting.
- Goal for brochure publication: by the end of the fiscal year.

### **Event Reminders and Coverage**

- Nemours-sponsored Active Communities workshop
  - Amy, Carol, Heather, Frank plan to attend
- WCBC Savage Century ride
  - David Bennett will bring materials to leave at the registration table.

**Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 6 PM. Meeting Adjourned: 8:06 PM**