



**Delaware Bicycle Council
December 1, 2021
Zoom Webinar
Meeting Notes**

Members Present

Walt Bryan, Sussex County Representative
Fran Cardaci, At-Large Representative
Shebra Hall, Division of Public Health Representative
Tom Hartley, Kent County Representative
Scott Hoffman, At-Large Representative
Marty Lessner, Council on Transportation
Jackie McDermott, Office of Highway Safety
Evette Morrow, At-Large Representative
Wendy Polasko, DelDOT Representative
Michael Wagner, Department of Education
James Wilson, New Castle County Representative

Members Absent

Mack Cochran, Trails & Greenways Council
Michael Krumrine, DNREC Representative
Michael Tyler, At-Large Representative
Cpl. Tyler Wright, DE State Police Representative

DelDOT Support Staff

John Fiori, Bicycle Coordinator, DelDOT
Christina Thomas, Administrative Assistant, DelDOT

Guests

Chris Asay, Public
John Bare, Bike Delaware
Jim Hutchins, Public
Paul Moser, DelDOT
Primus Poppiti, Public
Bill Weller, Sussex Cyclists
Karen Zakarian, Public

I. Welcome/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Scott Hoffman. The Council meeting was held virtually, in which John Fiori took a roll call of Council members present. The quorum was met for the meeting.

Introduce New Council Member-Evette Morrow:

Scott Hoffman introduced the newest Council member Evette Morrow. Evette addressed the Council that she has been a biker for about 15-years. And is a member of the local bike club. Evette is looking to bring some value to the Council.

Minutes/Agenda Review:

The Council reviewed the meeting minutes from the October 6, 2021. Scott Hoffman asked for a motion to accept the minutes from October 6, 2021. Fran Cardaci made the motion to accept the meeting minutes. James Wilson seconded the motion. All agreed, no one opposed. Motion passed.

II. Public Comment

John Bare requested to address the Council, where he wanted to say thank you to the Council for making the Delaware Yield permanent. Next mission is to start the process in taking the bike stop sign out of use. John Bare requested to be on the agenda for February 2022 to make a presentation for replacing SR1-16-DE sign with the SR1-17-DE sign. The bicycle stop sign has no meaning except in a few cases.

III. New Business

Nominees for 2022 Chair & Vice-Chair:

Fran Cardaci agreed to oversee the nominations for the 2022 Chair and Vice Chair. Scott Hoffman was nominated for Chair and Walt Bryan nominated himself for Vice-Chair. No other nominations were made. Nominations will be closed and voted at the next Council meeting on February 2, 2022. Additional nominations could be e-mailed to John T. Fiori or during the next Council meeting prior to voting.

Discuss & Vote FY2022 Delaware Bicycle Council Budget:

Shebra Hall addressed the Council that during the August Council meeting, Walt Bryan, Tom Hartley and Shebra Hall were approved to serve on the FY2022 Budget Working Group. A draft budget was provided to the Council but there was an opportunity for Council members to make recommendations, in which budget proposal were accepted until November 5, 2021 and would be reviewed and approved at the December meeting. No proposals were submitted. Shebra Hall asked for a motion to accept the FY2022 Delaware Bicycle Council Budget. Mike Wagner made a motion to accept the FY2022 budget. Walt Bryan seconded the motion. All agreed. No one opposed.

Discuss Proposed FY2023 DBC Budget:

John Fiori addressed the Council concerning the FY2023 Delaware Bicycle Council Budget. Planning would like to know if \$50,000 is sufficient or does the Council want to revise the amount. Tom Hartley indicated the Council should request an increase of \$20,000 to the DBC Budget, where the Chair would need to write a letter to the Secretary of Transportation. Tom Hartley made the motion to approve Scott Hoffman to write the letter increasing the current budget by \$20,000.00 that would increase the total budget from \$50,000.00 to \$70,000.00, where the increase would be used for the Cycling Infrastructure Innovation Grant. Walt Bryan seconded the motion. All agreed. No one opposed.

Discuss & Vote on 2020 Cycling Innovation Grant:

Tom Hartley discussed the Cycling Innovation Grants. There was a total of eight applications submitted from: Bethany Beach, Dover, Elsmere, Georgetown, Lewes, Millville, Milton, and Newark. The working group met with all the applicants and after the meeting determined the top three applications were Newark, Georgetown, and Lewes. Newark requested \$15,000.00, Georgetown requested \$20,000.00 and Lewes requested \$20,000.00. Lewes had an item for a trail counter where the Council did not see the value for this. Removing this item would reduce the request to \$15,000.00. Contacted Georgetown and Lewes and asked if they could each come down an additional \$2,500, which put Georgetown to \$17,500 and Lewes to \$12,500 for a total of \$30,000. They each responded they could. The grant working group is recommending to the Council to award two grant requests for Georgetown and Lewes. Scott Hoffman asked for a motion to award cycling innovation grants to Georgetown for \$17,500 and to Lewes for \$12,500. Walt Bryan made the motion. Michael Wagner seconded the motion. All agreed, no one opposed. Motion passed.

IV. Old Business

Bicycle Route 1 Update:

Chris Asay stated that he contacted some people in New Castle to help. When they get the information then Scott will put it together in the format like the Kent and Sussex maps.

Priority Bikeway Projects Update:

John Fiori stated that Phase 8 of the Georgetown to Lewes Trail has been completed and the ribbon cutting ceremony was held on November 19th. This section is from the Georgetown Little League Park to Park Avenue. The other is that DelDOT is moving forward with finalizing the concept plan for the Augustine Cut-Off Bicycle Improvement Project. The City of Wilmington was awarded a Cycling Infrastructure Innovation Grant in 2017, where a feasibility study was conducted. DelDOT will conduct a public workshop and finalize the concept plans. If everything goes well, the project will move forward into the design phase.

Chris Asay asked if the Georgetown to Lewes Trail; Cool Spring Road to Fisher Road has started construction? John Fiori responded no and that the project just went out to bid. Bid openings will occur around December 14th or 15th, where the project will not begin construction until next Spring. Chris then asked when will construction begin on Capital City Trail Phase 3? John Fiori responded that the final plans were recently distributed for review, but he will find out when is the anticipated

begin date and let Chris know. James Wilson had a question as part of the larger vision to build the Dover loop, should there be a map? John Fiori responded that there is no map at this there is not tail map of its own, but Planning is working on this and is waiting on a cost proposal to make this map.

Safety Initiatives:

Breakout Room 1

This group consisted of; James Wilson, Walt Bryan, Fran Cardaci, Shebra Hall and Tom Hartley. The group discussed having safety videos. The long driver safety video would be approximately 30-minutes. Shebra Hall indicated people who the long driver video might make them feel safer when bicycling. This video could be used at driver education classes or possibly be used to reduce auto insurance. The short driver safety video would be approximately 1-minute. James Wilson indicated he saw a traffic video that he thinks would be great example. This video should aim for “virality” (something clever and “sticky”). The third would be a driver education bicycle module. Shebra Hall liked this and thought it might make people feel safety bicycling. Fran Cardaci said education of drivers is really needed.

Breakout Room 2

This group consisted of; Michael Wagner, Jackie McDermott, Wendy Polasko, Marty Lessner, Scott Hoffman, Paul Moser, and Evette Morrow. Their idea was a mobile bike trailer. The objectives discussed were:

- What is our target audience and where could this take place?
 - Kids (In summer camps, at schools, mostly elementary age students but high schools could have a refresher.)
 - Groups up to 30.
 - YMCA
 - OHS
 - Parking Lots during the school year and during the summer
 - Kids could bring their own bikes
- What is already out there and available in Delaware?
 - Urban bike project
 - Newark bike project
 - DelDOT has a mobile bike trailer already – They do bicycle rodeos. About 6 – 12 a year.
- How could we expand what is being done?
 - Develop a curriculum for schools.
 - Do a train the trainer for schools if it would be possible to loan the trailer out to schools if schools are interested.
 - Make a pitch for a second trailer.
 - Lessons could be 30 minutes to an hour which could serve up to 30 kids. Typical lessons focus on signaling, turns and have an obstacle course.

- Next steps?
 - View the DeIDOT Bike Trailer
 - Continue the discussion

When the Council returned from the breakout room, Scott Hoffman said a summary will need to be prepared prior to the next Council meeting, then see where the Council is and to decide at the next meeting which project to do.

Scott Hoffman entertained a motion to adjourn. James Wilson made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Michael Wagner seconded the motion at 7:00 p.m. All agreed, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Next meeting: Wednesday February 2, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to be held virtually unless otherwise determined.