



**Delaware Bicycle Council**  
**June 4, 2025**  
**Zoom Webinar**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present**

Fran Cardaci, At-Large Representative  
Tom Hartley, Kent County Representative  
Scott Hoffman, At-Large Representative  
Michael Krumrine, DNREC Representative  
Marty Lessner, Council on Transportation  
Jackie McDermott, Office of Highway Safety  
Wendy Polasko, DelDOT Representative  
Michael Wagner, Department of Education  
James Wilson, New Castle County Representative

**Members Absent**

Lauren Butscher, Division of Public Health  
Mack Cochran, Trails & Greenways Council  
Michael Tyler, At-Large Representative  
Sgt. John Wheatly, Delaware State Police

**Guests**

Bill Weller, Sussex Cyclists  
Pamela Eaton, Public  
Ian Fleming, Public

## **I. Welcome/Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Scott Hoffman. Scott took a roll call of the Council members present, and quorum was met.

### **Minutes/Agenda Review:**

The Council reviewed the meeting minutes from April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Tom Hartley made the motion to accept the meeting minutes. Michael Krumrine seconded the meeting minutes. All agreed. No one opposed.

## **II. Public Comment**

Pamela Eaton moved to Milton in Sussex County from the County of Maui where she worked for 15-years. Pamela has been involved in multimodal transportation and bicycle and pedestrian access. She was excited to see this meeting and is interested if there is anyway as a citizen she can get involved or support the Council.

Bill Weller thanked DelDOT for their continued support of the traffic safety stops (a.k.a. bicycle safety checkpoints) that occur in Sussex County. There have been a couple in the Rehoboth-Lewes area so far this summer season and Sussex Cyclists appreciates the support from DelDOT and John Fiori.

## **III. New Business**

### **Remembrance of Walt Bryan**

Scott Hoffman announced that recently Walt Bryan had passed away and was an important member of the Council and was very involved in the happenings of Sussex County. Tom Hartley attended Walt's memorial, and he indicated that Walt had a cerebral hemorrhage, where he was transported to Jefferson hospital and was not long before he passed away. Next year Walt would have been 90-years old. Walt had three daughters and was a widower twice. Walt was a member of Alcoholics Anonymous and was sober for 45-years. Walt was passionate about photography and between kayaking and bicycling was a way to get to places to take pictures. Walt was a graduate of Lewes High School, an alderman in the court system, helped with the Department of Elections, a real estate agent, served in the United States Air Force, was a jet mechanic, a pilot and a member of the Cool Spring Presbyterian Church. Tom said one of his daughters indicate that serving on the Council and being involved in real estate helped keep him young. Tom said it was a good memorial service and we will miss Walt. Ian Fleming wanted to add that he worked with Walt the last 10-years with the elections and Walt was the person who elevated him to majority judge. It was amazing how many people he knew throughout not just in Sussex County but the state. Walt was very outgoing, friendly and loved to laugh.

### **Everyone Gets Home Summit – Self Explaining Roads**

James Wilson indicated that this conference has been going on since 2012. The conference has been important in bicycle change over the years. This is not a bike summit anymore but really a traffic safety summit. This will be the third Everyone Gets Home Summit, where there are changes to the road network where bicycling needs to be safe. It will be difficult to argue for change when

it is just about bicycles or people not using bicycles or people walking. The theme for this year is self-explaining roads. James wanted to invite everyone on the Council and guests to the summit.

### **Memorial Plaque for John Kurpjuweit**

Scott indicated that Michael Tyler was to do this presentation, but he was notable to attend tonight's meeting. Bill Weller is going to fill in since he has been working with Michael on this. Scott did say that the Council received feedback from DNREC which will be discussed after the presentation. Bill Weller presented that during the April 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting the Council agreed to consider recommending a commemorative plaque for John Kurpjuweit that recognized his contributions to the bicycling community. Michael Tyler and Walt Bryan agreed to work with Sussex Cyclists to develop the plaque. There is a precedent where a plaque was installed in 2014 for Larry Wonderlin on the Junction-Breakwater Trail bridge over Salt Marsh. The plaque is 10"x6" and has held up well considering it is 11-years old and outdoors. The plaque has a summary and picture of Larry. It is being proposed there be another plaque for John Kurpjuweit on the same bridge with a summary and photograph. After this was submitted, John Fiori indicated that this section of the trail and bridge is maintained by DNREC, where the bike community and/or Council would have to work with DNREC to get their permission and their requirements. Then will need to determine funding and fabrication options. John Fiori mentioned this type of sign could not be made by DelDOT and it appears the complications of having DelDOT fund this would be beyond the cost of what the sign might cost to make. Bill said it needs to be discussed on what is the Council's recommendation; does the Council have suggestions; would Sussex Cyclists want to fund this. It still needs to be determined the cost and who could make the sign. The existing plaque would be a great template if it could be determined who made it. Tom Hartley asked if it is known who installed the sign. Bill responded no but Michael Tyler was involved in having the plaque installed 11-years ago. Scott Hoffman stated that he reached out to Michael Krumrine since he is the DNREC representative on the Council and he asked Michael if he could present the response from DNREC Parks & Recreations. Michael Krumrine responded that he needed to ask upper management as this is something that is not allowed in parks. Typically, rather than having individual plaques, memorial trees or memorial benches are options. Michael was told by the Director of Parks & Recreations that a plaque would not be approved and nobody in the Department knows who approved that plaque that was installed. What is recommended, if Sussex Cyclists would like to honor John Kurpjuweit, as he is certainly deserving of it, to do a memorial bench. If Sussex Cyclists would like a memorial bench, that would not be a problem. The cost of the memorial bench is \$2,500, where DNREC Parks & Recreations will do all the purchasing and installation, but Sussex Cyclists would have the funds to pay for the memorial bench. Bill asked what the cost for the memorial tree would be. Michael responded that he is not familiar with the memorial tree program but will get that information. Bill indicated it would be helpful to have that when he goes back to the board of Sussex Cyclists. Scott added that he discussed with John Fiori and that there is no funding available in the FY25 Council Budget but could be funding available in the next fiscal year budget, which begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Scott also indicated this will be an agenda topic for the August 6<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

### **2025 Cycling Infrastructure Grant Working Group**

Scott Hoffman stated that Walt was a member on the Cycling Infrastructure Grant Working Group and was also the chairperson. Scott reached out to members on the Council where Michael

Krumrine offered to be on the on the working group. Currently the working group does not have a chairperson. Scott asked of those on the working group would anyone want to be the chairperson. Tom Hartley offered to be the chairperson. Scott asked for a motion to add Michael Krumrine to the grant working group and Tom Hartley as chairperson. Fran Cardaci made the motion. James Wilson seconded the motion. All agreed. No one opposed.

### **Electing new Delaware Bicycle Council Vice-Chair**

Scott Hoffman stated that Walt was also the Vice-Chair of the Council, where Council needed to determine to either fill the Vice-Chair position for the remainder of the year or continue without a Vice-Chair. Michael Wagner responded that if the Council wants a Vice-Chair and nobody else is interested, he would be willing to stand in. Scott asked for a motion if the Council wants to make Michael Wagner the Vice-Chair for the remainder of year. Tom Hartley made the motion. Fran Cardaci seconded the motion. All agreed. No one opposed.

Scott asked the Council if there were any other items for discussion. James wanted to address the Council. James e-mailed the grant working group about a grade separated crossing, which was something Walt had talked a lot about and had a lot of discussion on a grade separated crossing. James e-mailed the grant working group about tunnel rather than a bridge and whether the bike grant might be something that could advance that. James wanted to see if anybody on the grant working group, or the Council just had any thoughts on this. Scott responded that Walt was the primary connection to Sussex County who seems to be the entity to do anything with that. If Walt is not doing anything, then do not think anyone is doing anything. Tom asked James is it possible to find somebody at the County level that would be willing to take that on? James responded that he knows the Sussex County Administrator and knows he is interested in this as he reached out to the community requesting letters of support for sort of funding. It does appear he is already interested in this idea to some extent. Maybe things are already happening where the cycling infrastructure innovation grant might not be relevant, but somebody should discuss with him to see where he is on advancing the idea and if nowhere on funding then cycling infrastructure innovation grant might be helpful. The thought was if there is some capacity to reach out to Sussex County as we have been talking about this for so long and whether the grant can help this move forward but would like the question to be asked. Scott responded that he would reach out to the Sussex County Administrator. James stated that maybe this could be a memorial to Walt since he really wanted to make this happen, where maybe the Council picking this up will be a tribute to his memory.

Tom Hartley made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Michael Krumrine seconded the motion at 6:00 p.m. All agreed, no one opposed. Motion passed.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, August 6, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to be held as a hybrid of in-person and virtually.**

To view the Delaware Bicycle Council video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/R8ZnHIARUjI>