

Chester County Cycling Coalition
Minutes: May 17, 2010

In Attendance:

John Boyle – BCGP
Rollie Boyle - CCCC
Charlie Brant - BCGP
Mike Broennle – DVBC/PAECG
Tom Dannaker – WCCC/CCCC
Mark Dane - CCCC
Natasha Manbeck - CCPC
Ray McGlew – BBC/CCCC
Fred Rothman - CCCC
Steve Warren – CCCC/Friends of the CVT
Jim Wylie – Hybrid Cycles
Ellen Zadoff –CCCC

Status of CCCC/BCGP

EAZ reported on BCGP Suburban Group Meeting

- BCGP to investigate possibility of creating Board positions for each group
- They can help us with advocacy: grant writing/plans
- We can set up a fund within the BCGP designated specifically for our use so that we can fundraise as needed. We can not open our own bank account.

Website

We discussed whether or not we should have our own website or would a link from the BCGP site to a blog be enough. Ultimately it was agreed that we could forego having our own site if we could post directly to our page on the BCGP site rather than send items in to be posted by someone else.

Action: Ray McGlew to follow-up with Sarah

Project Update: Natasha Manbeck

Natasha provided an updated project status report prior to the meeting. Items mentioned briefly at the meeting were:

- TIP will be available for review in June. Check it to see if comments are necessary for bike/ped projects
- US202-Section 100 design will be on the TIP. This will be an excellent project for CCCC involvement.
- CVT Phase I - construction to be completed August 2010
- CVT Phase II – construction scheduled 2011-2012
- SRT Linfield to 422 - \$6 million earmarked
- Crombie to Linfield Rd 100% funded – s/b completed Fall 2010 – gravel surface
- Pheonixville section is on the TIP
- Project Advocacy
 - Natasha recommended reviewing the projects on the TIP and determining which were most important and focus on that. Projects that are on the TIP are more likely to be completed than those in the Counties TII. (Be careful/choose your battles)
 - Caution: Municipalities are opposed to wider bridges. They believe they result in faster traffic and more truck traffic.
 - Bridges should not be used for traffic calming.

Chester Valley Trail Status – Steve Warren

- Phase I: Church Farm School Rd – Route 29
 - Most of the obstacles have been corrected
 - 4 miles: Valley Creek Blvd to PA29 is 8' wide concrete – opening this summer
 - Church Rd Bridge due to be done next week.
 - They will not be paving the section from Valley Creek to Ship Road.
 - It's possible this could be added.
- Phase II: Route 29 to Warner Rd. – 7.6 miles- construction 2011-2012.
- Phase III: Still in the planning phase
 - Biggest challenge is that it has to cross route 30.
 - Difficulty hooking up with the Struble Trail: Old Valley Rd possible?
 - Natasha will find out who is responsible for Old Valley Road (PennDot/Municipal/Exton County Park?)

Advocacy and Communications

- Status of Bills 1110 and 1109 and SB 739
 - Its PA Walks and Bikes' (Josh Cairns) responsibility to advocate for state-wide legislation that is pro-cycling. CCCC should also be talking to them to make sure they're doing this.
 - CCCC should provide information to membership and ask them to support the issues by writing to legislators.
 - John Boyle believes that a vulnerable user bill would be better than the current bill which specifically addresses passing distance between a motor vehicle and bicycle. A vulnerable user law would include pedestrians/buggies etc. It would garner more support. However this hasn't been raised.
- Regional Safety Task Force
 - Consensus is we need to stop talking on mobile phones!
- DVRPC developed the Mercer County Bike Map an interactive on-line map cyclists can use to find the best routes
 - We should ask them to develop one for Chester County

Ambassador Program

- Fred Rothman has been working on recruiting people for the program.
- We discussed what the BCGP's Ambassador Program does
 - Funded by a 2 yr transportation enhancement plan for Education
 - Distributes brochures about bike safety – Outreach to cyclists
 - Go to schools
 - Fairs
 - They go to every venue by bike

Improving Cycling in Chester County

- Bike to work:
 - Corporations
 - TMACC: Brings together public and private sectors. Corporations are members. Could be an effective partner for us.
 - Greater Valley Forge TMAC has commuter challenge. Corporations are sponsors.
 - Steve Warren mentioned that there are a lot of Corporations located close to the Phase II section of the CVT. Hartford Life – a lot of young employees.
 - Schools – Safe Routes to School/Promote kids cycling
 - Natasha can provide a map with 6 school districts
 - Key: get pedestrians interested in cycling
- Bike Friendly WC
 - In order to improve conditions for cycling in rural portions of the County, we first have to concentrate on improving it in the towns – WC should use Newark Delaware as an example of what can be done. Newark has recently named a bike friendly community:
 - U. of Delaware – Students use bikes for transportation
 - Several miles of bike lanes
 - Multi-use trails
 - 100-200 bike racks.
 - West Chester
 - Transit Hub
 - WCU
 - Manageable Streets (bike lanes not needed on most streets)
 - Need to enforce traffic laws
 - Safe routes to school would work well here.

Next Meeting:

Monday July 19, 2010

7:00 pm

601 Westtown Rd

West Chester