

Bike Medina County
Feb 7, 2019
Medina County Administration Building

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Secretary John Gladden (Medina County Park District), Mike Jansen (Wadsworth Exploration Guild), Second Vice President Lynne Nawalaniec (Century Cycles), Tony Ratajczak (NOACA Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee), President Beth Schnabel, Treasurer Suzanne Swain (Friends of Medina County Parks), Jansen Wehrley (Medina City Parks Director).

Call to Order

Beth called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m. Tim was unable to attend due to illness. Mike Jansen introduced himself and shared about his efforts in Wadsworth to promote cycling and cycling safety. Mike is working on creating residential cycling routes and hopes to organize weekly rides through residential neighborhoods.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from Jan. 3 were approved with a correction to the amount donated to the Ohio Bicycle Federation to list the Lake to Lake Ride on the OBF Bicycling Events Calendar -- \$35. Going forward, John will email a copy of the minutes first to Beth and Tim, then to the remainder of the committee one week later.

Treasurer's Report

Suzanne reported a balance of \$4,298.74. She continues to pursue options for a credit card.

Old Business

John reported he and Tim met to discuss website hosting options. Their recommendation is to stick with Weebly. It meets Bike Medina County's current needs and there is no cost. John updated much of the site with new content. The Lake to Lake committee will work on updating the events page, including adding a PayPal link for online registration for this year's ride.

John reported he completed the insurance applications provided by Dan Hostetler. Dan will submit them to Homestead Insurance. John will also seek an insurance quote from Buren Insurance Group, which has covered the Lake to Lake Ride for the past two years. Tony noted it's important to make sure coverage includes those volunteers doing work such as marking the route before the event.

There was general discussion regarding the ODOT Bike Route through Medina County. The process is still pending a decision from Brunswick. Jansen reported Medina has approved a resolution to support the route, knowing the route likely will be amended. He would like to see it follow the new multipurpose trail along North Court Street, which would offer access to multiple businesses, as well as a connection to the Reagan Parkway trail. Beth noted a few committee members have offered to ride proposed routes and offer their assessments. Tony observed it would be best to have a statistically significant study of the routes, otherwise it could come down to varying personal opinions.

After discussion of potential giveaways for this year's Earth Day Festival, it was proposed to have a drawing for up to three free registrations for the Lake to Lake Ride. Tony so moved. Suzanne seconded. All voted in favor. Suzanne and Lynne will work together to create a raffle basket.

Multiple opportunities for public outreach were discussed. Lynne reported Main Street Medina is sponsoring a Kids Day of Safety and Play June 1 on Public Square. There was enthusiasm for Bike Medina County to take part. At 7 p.m. on March 26, Mike will present an interactive Road Cycling Awareness and Safety Workshop at Wadsworth Public Library. He invited Bike Medina County members to attend and share information.

New Business

John reported that on request from the city of Brunswick, he drafted a letter on behalf of Bike Medina County to support the city's ODNR Clean Ohio Trails Fund grant application for a proposed multipurpose trail. The first phase would start at Plum Creek Park and extend north to school and park sites. Tim signed the Jan. 17 letter on Bike Medina County's behalf. Clean Ohio is the same funding source being sought for the city of Medina's proposed extension of the Reagan Parkway trail from Larkens Way to the new multi-use trail along North Court Street, which Bike Medina County also strongly supports.

Beth shared information on an upcoming Safe Cycling Instructor seminar hosted by Bike Cleveland.

There was general discussion of the proposed 3-Foot-Rule sign map, with members expressing concerns regarding promoting the roads the signs are located on as safe bike routes. Beth recalled that Katie Sieb from NOACA had said it may be possible to mark the sign locations on an updated NOACA bike map. Beth will check with her. In the meantime, the 3-Foot-Rule sign map was tabled pending additional information and discussion.

There was discussion of the proposed strategic plan presented by Tony at the Jan. 3 meeting. Jansen noted it would be beneficial for there to be a meeting perhaps twice a year of city and county park directors as well as other leaders to foster greater coordination of projects while they are on the drawing board. Members expressed their agreement. The proposed strategic plan is attached to these minutes.

Beth left the meeting at approximately 12:45 p.m. Lynne assumed duties as chair.

Reports

Lynne reported the Lake to Lake Ride planning committee will hold its first meeting at 5:30 p.m. March 4 at the Medina Panera. [This was subsequently changed to March 18.]

Jansen noted Clean Ohio trail grants will be awarded in October and projects must be completed within a 15-month timeframe. He also noted the Signature Square trail connector to Lake Medina is to be completed by the end of 2019. In addition, Jansen reported the city received positive feedback from trail users on its work plowing snow from multi-use paths this winter.

Adjournment

With no other business before the committee, Tony moved to adjourn at 1:09 p.m. Suzanne seconded. All voted in favor.

Next Meeting

The March 7 meeting will be held at 6 p.m. in the community room at the River Styx Buehler's, 3626 Medina Rd. (State Route 18).

DRAFT

MEDINA COUNTY BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE

STRATEGIC PLAN

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

- Become a strategic partner in transportation and development planning

BRING BACK STRATEGIC PARTNERS

- Dept of Planning Services
- Medina, Brunswick and Wadsworth City engineers and parks directors
- Medina County Engineer
- Medina County Commissioner
- Medina County Parks District Director
- Economic Development Director
- Visitor Bureau Director

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- Champion 2016 infrastructure projects
 - Lake Medina-Signature Square Connector *
 - Reagan Pkwy MUP Extension to N. Court *
 - Bohaty Connector
 - Sturbridge Dr.-E. Smith Rd Connector
 - Lake Medina Trail/Huffman Park Connector
 - Bike Rte 2-Substation Rd./Fenn Rd. Connector
 - County Sewer Line Trail
 - Bike/Ped Bridge over I-71 at SR 18
 - I-71 Bikeway

*= in process

- Partner with ODOT, County, cities and townships in highway improvements planning
- Implement the *Bicycle Friendly Business Project*
 - Identify candidate commercial and industrial establishments *
 - Contact business/property owners regarding installation of bike racks
 - Encourage commercial establishments to promote bike parking in their advertising
- Sign the County Bicycle Transportation Route System
- Promote bikes on transit

PROMOTE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO BICYCLIST SAFETY

- Promote bicyclist safety in the media (Gazette and Post papers)
- Encourage safe routes to school programs for Medina, Brunswick and Wadsworth City schools
- Promote the necessity for bicyclists to take responsibility for their safety by
 - Stressing the need for all bicycles to have rear red and frontal white flashing lights
 - Stressing the need to wear high visibility clothing
- Make motorists aware of the danger to bikes and peds from the operation of motor vehicles with semi-autonomous driving features
- Develop a safe vehicle operation slogan, e.g., "Cyclists ride with both hands on the handlebars, motorists should drive with both hands on the wheel".

ENHANCE TASK FORCE VISIBILITY

- Improve web site
 - Enhance visibility
 - Identify bike parking locations*
 - Show Medina County Bicycle Transportation Routes maps*
- Establish Facebook site

EDUCATION

- Consider League of American Bicyclists safety program training in the County
- Establish and present safe biking instruction for grade school students

EVENTS

- Continue the Lake to Lake event
- Develop weekly evening short “rolls” in Medina, Brunswick and Wadsworth*

AFR - 12/6/18