

**Bike Medina County**  
**Nov. 1, 2018**  
**Medina County Administration Building**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendance**

Secretary John Gladden (Medina County Park District), Roger and Mara Hornstrom (Medina community representatives), Lynne Nawalaniec (Century Cycles), Tony Ratejczak (NOACA Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee), First Vice President Tim Smith, Curtis Wellock (Medina City Parks).

**Call to Order**

Lynne called the meeting to order at 11:51 a.m. Tim was on his way.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the October meeting were approved. Minutes from the September meeting -- approval of which had been tabled last month until all had a chance to read them -- had not been distributed. Approval was tabled until December.

**Treasurer's Report**

None.

**Old Business**

Curtis reported the South Court Street bike lane striping project remained on target to be completed before winter. The work is pending the contractor's schedule and the weather.

Tony presented his inventory of Medina bike racks. The document will be placed on the Bike Medina County website to help promote bike parking locations in the city.

Lynne shared Century Cycles is partnering with local businesses to plan a "tavern tour" in summer 2019. Cyclists who ride their bikes to locations on the tour will receive a discount. Events like that can be a foot in the door in encouraging businesses to install bike racks, she said. John added we need more such events for cyclists to flex their spending muscles at local businesses -- like a "shop by bike" day. When owners see cyclists coming into stores in cycling gear and spending money, they may be more open to the idea of bike racks. Lynne also shared about Cranksgiving Cleveland -- a bike event to help people in need. It would be nice to add a charity-type event to Bike Medina County's activities, but it would depend on the number of volunteers who step up to help and on when we are able to obtain liability coverage.

Tim arrived at 12:12 p.m. and assumed leadership of the meeting.

Tim and Mara reported the BMC booth on the Fall Foliage Tour was a success. Many attendees learned about BMC for the first time. Tim credited Beth for the extensive information display. Mara noted many of the people she spoke with expressed concern with riding on roads because of traffic. She encouraged them to seek out local trail riding opportunities.

There was a general discussion regarding the 3-foot-rule signs that will be going up on township roads. The signs have a dual purpose of not only identifying recommended roads for cycling, but also of making motorists more aware of cyclists and thereby making the roads safer. There was additional discussion of continuing to work with the county engineer in hopes of getting some signs on county roads where more motorists would see

them. Tim believes whichever candidate is elected to fill the open seat on the county board of commissioners will be willing to work with BMC on cycling safety issues.

Tony gave an update on ODOT bike route planning. Strongsville is still finalizing its portion of the route, which will determine where the route will enter Medina County -- via Substation Road or W. 130th Street. The consensus was that W. 130th is unsafe for multiple reasons and Substation would be the preferred route. The concern that some have with Substation is the speed of traffic, especially since it was recently resurfaced. Tim noted this sort of issue is why BMC was formed -- to bring a cyclist's point of view to the table. Tony will provide further updates as the process moves forward.

Tim reported the presentation to Murray Van Epp at the Medina County Commissioners meeting went very well. It was good to be able to thank Murray publicly for his generosity in funding the 3-foot-rule signs and the presentation was well covered in the local news media.

There are still some final bills to be paid for the Lake to Lake Tour, so Lynne reported she does not yet have a final tally on how much money was generated. It may be less than last year, due to the cost of liability insurance and since there were fewer cash donations. We still need to send thank-you notes to event partners and donors. John suggested convening a small group to write them, so all the work does not fall on Lynne.

John volunteered to fill out the necessary forms to obtain quotes on obtaining liability insurance for BMC's board members and activities. Lynne said she would look into available insurance options through the League of American Bicyclists.

### **New Business**

Tony noted we need to drive more traffic to our website, since we are hoping to build up the resources available there. John added that we need a social media manager who can engage the local bicycling community with regular posts and help promote the information on the website. John said he would research the cost of getting BMC its own web domain, so that "Weebly" could be dropped from its web address.

Tony also suggested trying to foster collaboration in Medina between the city and the schools on a Safe Routes to School program. Tim said Pat McNamara has experience with the Safe Routes to School program in Brunswick. John asked if perhaps Pat would be willing to reach out to the city of Medina, since he has a handle on what it takes to get the program up and running.

Tony reported on a conversation with former Medina County Parks Director Tom James, who said construction on the connector trail between Lake Medina and Signature Square Plaza could begin in 2019. John added that this would be another opportunity for BMC to sponsor a night out or "shop by bike" event to help incentivize plaza merchants to be bicycle-friendly.

### **Adjournment**

Tim called for a motion to adjourn. Tony so moved. Roger seconded. All voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Dec. 6 at the Medina Library, with a holiday social time to follow next door at JoJo's.