Delaware Bicycle Council
April 1, 2026
Zoom Webinar
Meeting Minutes

Members Present
Lauren Butscher, Division of Public Health
Fran Cardaci, At-Large Representative
Tom Hartley, Kent County Representative
Scott Hoffman, At-Large Representative
Amanda Kelly, New Castle County Representative
Marty Lessner, Council on Transportation
Jackie McDermott, Office of Highway Safety
Michael Tyler, At-Large Representative
Michael Wagner, Department of Education
Lt. John Wheatly, Delaware State Police
James Wilson, New Castle County Representative

Members Absent
Mack Cochran, Trails & Greenways Council
Wendy Polasko, DelDOT Representative

Guests
Ian Friedland, Public
Chris Holloway, Public
Stephanie Johnson, DelDOT
Major J. Andrew Lloyd, Delaware State Police
Collins Roth, Public
Lt. Patrick Stock, Delaware State Police
Bill Weller, Sussex Cyclists
Karen Zakarian, Public

I. Welcome/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Scott Hoffman. John Fiori took a roll call of the Council members present, and quorum was met.

Minutes/Agenda Review:
The Council reviewed the meeting minutes of February 4th. Amanada Kelly made the motion to accept the meeting minutes. Marty Lessner seconded the meeting minutes. All agreed. No one opposed.

II. Public Comment

No public comments.

III. New Business

Delaware Bicycle Council Updates
John Fiori announced that Lt. John Wheatly submitted his resignation from the Council effective April 1st. The Boards & Commissions Office has been notified, and Delaware State Police already has a someone nominated to replace Lt. Wheatly. Also, two applications have been submitted for the Sussex County Representative, where the Boards & Commissions Office is moving forward in the process of filling that position. Scott Hoffman asked about the vacant DNREC Parks & Recreations position where John indicated the Boards & Commissions Office working with DNREC to fill that position.

2026 Cycling Infrastructure Innovation Grant Working Group
Scott Hoffman asked for volunteers to represent the 2026 Cycling Infrastructure Innovation Grant Working Group. Tom Hartley, Lauren Butscher, Amanda Kelly, Fran Cardaci, Scott Hoffman and Michael Wagner were nominated. Scott Hoffman asked for a motion to accept those nominated to be on the 2026 Cycling Infrastructure Innovation Grant Working Group. Tom Hartley made the motion, and Amanada Kelly seconded the motion. All agreed, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Everyone Gets Home Summit
James Wilson announced that the Everyone Gets Home Summit will be on Thursday, May 7, 2026, at the Legislative Mall in Dover. The topic for this year's summit is Multimodal Roundabouts. Registration is free for anyone living or working in Delaware. Anyone interested can register at BikeDE.org/summit. John Fiori stated that he will have the flyer for the summit placed in the DelDOT newsletter for those who may be interested in attending.

2026 Legislative Bike to Dover
John Fiori announced that registration for the 2026 Legislative Bike to Dover is now open and is located on the Delaware Bicycle Council website under Legislative Bike to Dover. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2026. This event started in 1990 as part of the signing of the bill that created the Delaware Bicycle Council. Senator Sokola has been the sponsor of this event, but this year will be his last as a state senator. Senator Sokola will lead the New Castle riders from

Middletown while Rep. Hilovsky will lead the Kent-Sussex riders from Milford. The two groups will meet at Eden Hill in Dover then ride in unity to the Legislative Mall. The event is free and there is a return shuttle service for the New Castle riders back to Middletown.

IV. Old Business

Memorial Plaque for John Kurpjuweit
Michael Tyler reported that after discussing with the former DNREC Parks & Recreations Director that the bridge hall of fame proposal is likely not feasible due to numerous similar requests and lack of information about how the existing Larry Wonderland plaque was approved.

No Mopeds Signs on Trails/Pathways
The Council discussed legislation regarding the use of electric-assisted bikes on bike trails. Marty Lessner proposed drafting comprehensive legislation defining appropriate electric bike usage, while Major Lloyd suggested reviewing and modifying existing Delaware statutes to make them more enforceable. Stephanie Johnson announced that DelDOT Planning is developing an e-bike safety campaign in collaboration with community relations and going to be working with a consultant who is already working with the state of Maryland on e-bike safety. Prior to making any legislative recommendations, DelDOT will work with state police and other law enforcement agencies to ensure that whatever legislation is proposed that it will be effective. The Council discussed the challenges of addressing high-speed electric mopeds and motorcycles, which are often mistaken for regular bicycles. James Wilson emphasized the importance of clearly distinguishing between bicycles and motorized vehicles to effectively educate the public. Stephanie agreed on the need for public education but argued that focusing on technical classifications might not be practical for the public. The discussion highlighted the need to establish a clear line between low-speed bicycles and high-speed motorized vehicles to improve safety and enforcement efforts. Marty highlighted existing Delaware Code provisions that define different classes of electric bicycles and require manufacturers to label them with classification information and top assisted speed. Major Lloyd expressed concerns about the practicality of enforcing these technical regulations through bike path stops, suggesting the laws may be too complex for daily enforcement and recommending simplification of the legislation. The Council discussed a balanced approach combining education with targeted enforcement, particularly through school programs and safety checkpoints, while acknowledging the challenges of enforcing complex technical regulations against primarily juvenile offenders. Scott Hoffman requested this agenda topic be included on the June agenda.

Michael Wagner made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Lauren Butscher seconded the motion at 6:30 p.m. All agreed, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 3, 2026, 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/UE8fbSf04-U**