

**NJ Committee for the East Coast Greenway  
Board Meeting Minutes  
September 17, 2009—6:30 pm  
Baird Community Center, South Orange, NJ**

**Present:** Mike Kruimer (Co-Chair), Anne Kruimer, David Ascher, Dolores Newman (Co-Chair), Mike Dannemiller, Mike Selender, Gary Johnson, Mike Oliva, Dennis Markatos-Soriano

**Guest:** Elizabeth Thompson, Senior Planner Corridor Studies, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority

**Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of August 20, 2009 were approved.

**Comments of Executive Director:** The recently appointed Executive Director of the East Coast Greenway Alliance was introduced and he made some brief remarks. He talked about the goal of expanding membership through outreach and connecting with interested constituencies, including federal leaders and foundations. He wants to move the Greenway's headquarters to New York City, the country's media capital and financial center. He also discussed regional coordinator staffing. He would like to have a Princeton event.

**NJTPA:** Elizabeth Thompson explained her role and how she could assist and work to complement the efforts of the East Coast Greenway. NJTPA could host a meeting at which all interested people could attend to discuss gaps and how to resolve outstanding issues.

**NJ Bicycle Coalition:** Mike Kruimer attended a meeting on September 16, 2009 of the recently organized NJ Bicycle Coalition. It plans to organize a meeting to be held on February 20, 2010 that would be a NJ Bike Summit of bike shops, dealer, and distributors, and bike clubs. The question was raised as to whether the Committee should spend \$100 to become a member. The Coalition is already helping to promote the ECG through the efforts of one of the Coalition's founders, Ted Semegran.

**Membership:** Approximately 70 non-renewals were removed from the membership roster. Current membership is now at 324. A notice was being sent out regarding the upcoming Hudson Loop Ride on October 11, 2009. It was hoped that this would increase membership.

**Kiosks:** There was a discussion as to where the fourth kiosk will be placed—Roosevelt or Merrill Park? Installation is planned for Friday, November 27, 2009.

**Funding:** The Dodge Foundation is expected to send out soon the first 50% installment of the funding it is providing. There was a discussion regarding the amount of foundation grants retained by national. It was suggested that we should have an understanding or an agreement with national before we apply for such grants as to the amount or percentage of the grant that the Committee will be permitted to retain. Perhaps the Committee would prepare a template with blanks for foundations and amounts that could be used with national. We are still waiting to hear from The Kodak American Greenways Program regarding the \$1,500 grant application filed by the Committee. We will also continue to pursue opportunities with the Schumann Foundation and the Victoria Fund.

**6<sup>th</sup> Street Embankment:** Mike Selender provided a brief update on the status of the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Embankment, including actions by the Zoning Board, which were upheld, and the denial of demolition permits.

**Hudson Loop Ride:** The mechanics of the Hudson Loop Ride were discussed, including the collection of names, lunch and pre-ride outreach.

**Bike Shop Discount Program:** Campmor will be contacted to see if it will participate in the discount program.

**Upcoming Events:**    September 22    World Car Free Day  
                                 October 3            Bicycle Advocacy Brunch – Montclair  
                                 October 7            Passaic River Waterfront Meeting (Newark City Hall)  
                                 October 7            International Walk to School Day  
                                 October 24          Bike Rodeo – Newark South Ward

**Future Meeting Dates:**    October 15, 2009  
   November 18, 2009  
   January 14, 2010

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

David Ascher, Secretary