

Walk Friendly Newtown Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2026

6:00 – 7:30 pm

Newtown Borough Hall/Zoom

Attendees: Don and Gina in person; Courtney and Laura (via Zoom)

1. Opening
2. Updates (including open Action Items from November meeting)
 - 2025 Accident Data – **For full-year 2025, there were no motor vehicle accidents resulting in pedestrian injuries in Newtown Borough. Even more impressively, there were no motor vehicle accidents resulting in injuries to drivers, passengers, pedestrians or others in the Borough during this period.** From 2017-21, there were an average of more than 6 motor vehicle accidents per year in the Borough that resulted in injury to one or more parties. From the beginning of 2022 (WFN founding) through 2025, that annual average has dropped to about 1 per year, with none in 2025.
 - Frost Lane Sidewalk – Construction is complete. **ACTIONS:** 1) Gina to discuss with Council conducting a follow-up survey with Frost Lane residents to get their perspectives on the project process, communications and outcome, and; 2) WFN and Council to further discuss pros/cons of bicycle sharrow and “no parking” on the north side of Frost Lane.
 - Frost Lane/Edgeboro Pedestrian Bridge – The Township is expected to advertise the project for bidding in its February meeting cycle. **ACTION:** WFN to follow up on questions related to signage, materials used for path and bridge, crosswalk plans, and provision for ongoing maintenance as the project progresses.
 - North State Street Sidewalk Project – The Borough was not awarded the LSA grant for this project and has not received any update on its TASA application. **ACTION:** Don to follow up with Craig Totaro regarding next steps.
 - Communication – **ACTIONS:** 1) Tim to finalize timeline for car magnets incorporating new logo elements; 2) WFN team to propose uses for logo going forward, and; 3) Don to reach out to Jeff Werner (Newtown Patch) again to discuss an article in 1Q26.
 - Penn St./Centre Ave. One-Way Signage – WFN working with Borough Police regarding suggestions to improve signage on one-way sections of both streets. **ACTION:** Don and Gina will follow up with Chief Sabath to determine status of project.

- Enforcement – Newtown Borough Police participated in at least 6 enforcement waves in 2025 (versus 2 in 2024), and citations for the year increased more than 50% to nearly 1100. The department plans to participate in 2 enforcement waves from February-April 2026, with plans for the remainder of the year being developed. **ACTION:** Don to follow up with Chief Sabath to determine status of department review of supplemental active and passive enforcement recommendations.
- Holiday Tree Lighting/Caroling Through the Borough – WFN helped support a safe, enjoyable Tree Lighting on 12/5 by recruiting 4 safety assistants, and provided safety materials for Caroling Through the Borough on 12/17.

3. Upcoming/New Activities

- Liberty Centre – the Liberty Centre team is conducting a comprehensive Pedestrian Study to inform future planning for the site and adjacent areas. It is currently anticipated that the Pedestrian Study will be complete in mid-February. The group plans to seek input from WFN as this process unfolds.
- Nonprofit Status (501c3 process) – Gina noted that Borough Council is unclear how Walk Friendly Newtown’s efforts to establish non-profit status or a means of securing non-profit support align with its roles and obligations as a “standing committee” of Borough Council. She suggested WFN and Borough Council discuss this matter before any definitive non-profit actions are taken. **ACTION:** Scott and Courtney to develop a Walk Friendly Newtown ‘white paper’ to support a discussion with Council in 2Q26.
- 2026 Events – at this point, the first major event on WFN’s 2026 calendar is Goodnoe Elementary Wellness Night from 6-8 pm on April 23. **ACTIONS:** 1) Don to discuss any plans TMA has for this event with Nicole and share findings with Tim and Laura; 2) Tim and Laura to develop plan, materials and activities for WFN at Wellness Night , and; 3) Tim to develop proposed WFN 2026 event calendar for discussion at our March 23 meeting.

4. Other

- Don and Gina discussed having WFN provide Borough Council with an update on the group’s activities and accomplishments, and an overview of future plans. **ACTIONS:** 1) Gina to secure 30-45 minutes on March 4 Borough Council Work Session agenda for presentation and discussion, and; 2) Don and Courtney to develop draft presentation for WFN group review and comment.

The next WFN meeting is scheduled from 6-7:30 pm on March 23 at Borough Hall and via Zoom.