

Minutes of the December 1, 2021
Meeting of the
Board of Directors of
The New York Cycle Club, Inc.

Held In Person and Via Zoom

Present were: Peter Storey (Club President), Neile Weissman (Public Relations Director), Gerald Ross (VP of Rides), Linda Wintner (outgoing C Rides Coordinator), Michael Bernstein (A Rides Coordinator), Colin Taber (B-Rides Coordinator), Allan Friedman (ENY Director), Leora Rosenberg (outgoing Volunteer Coordinator), Robert Gilbert (Treasurer), Sheila O'Connor (Content Editor), Edward C. Delk (Secretary), Kym Blanchard (Membership Director), Steve Vaccaro (VP of Programs), Marc Simkin (incoming C Rides Coordinator), Charmaine Dixon (incoming Volunteer Coordinator), and Denise Alvarez-Heller (incoming Special Events Coordinator).

Peter, as President, called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

1. Financial Results of Escape New York 2021

Allan presented the results of this year's Escape New York event, emphasizing that it raised approximately \$48,000. He noted that the Club is a charitable/non-profit entity that does not profit from ENY revenue. The Board discussed different ideas on how to allocate ENY proceeds. After extensive additional discussion, the following proposal was made: (1) \$12,500 be granted to Kids Ride Club and \$12,500 be granted to I Challenge Myself, which are customarily the primary designated recipients of ENY proceeds; (2) \$5,000 be reserved for other charitable purposes to be identified by the Board in the future; and (3) \$18,000 be reserved for the next ENY event and set aside in a separate account (not commingled with other Club funds); *provided that* to the extent any of such reserve is not used for the next ENY event, such unused portion shall be reserved for other charitable purposes to be identified by the Board in the future. After discussion and upon motion made and seconded, the Board approved the proposal.

2. Diversity & Inclusion Committee

Kym provided an overview of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee, including background information, such as its membership, meeting frequency and activities. She identified its purposes: (1) raising the Club's profile in underrepresented communities; (2) increasing representation of underrepresented communities in the Club's leadership; and (3) making the Club more welcoming and inclusive. Kym described its most recent meeting which included three guests Club members: Gihan Perea, Gloria Lee and Yoni Stern. She relayed an unfortunate experience Gihan had at a recent Club membership meeting where he was mistaken by a Club member as a member of the serving staff of Connolly's. He unfavorably contrasted his experience as a new member of NYCC with how he was warmly welcomed by many members of Major Taylor Iron Riders after his

initial ride with that club. The Board discussed these points. Kym suggested that the Club develop a welcoming protocol for new members to ensure they receive a warm introduction and personal follow-up communications and engagement by experienced members. The Board discussed various ideas on how to create this feature for new members.

Neile delivered a presentation on a joint group ride between NYCC and Ciclistas Latinoamericanos de New York (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CiclistasNY/>), which was held on November 14th. Neile also described the “NY Giants Solidarity Ride” held on November 21st, which he said included a very racially and otherwise diverse group of cyclists. He said this event was a multi-club, multi-borough ride to support S4943B/A6235B – legislation calling on the Metropolitan Transit Authority to extend bike access across its seven automotive bridges: the Henry Hudson, RFK/TriBoro, Whitestone, Throggs Neck, Marine Parkway, CrossBay and Verrazzano-Narrows. According to Neile, the event included several Board members, other Club members (such as Gihan), and approximately 300 additional cyclists. The Board discussed the event as well as a suggestion that the Club consider ways to create a young adult cycling course focused on skills, sort of a “Baby SIG”.

3. Proposal to Appoint Committee to Review By-laws and Report Suggested Changes

Peter led a discussion during which Gerald renewed his suggestion from the November 2nd meeting that the Board appoint a very small committee to review the By-laws and report suggested changes, if any, to the new Board in January. Gerald formally proposed a committee to review the By-laws to address a variety of issues, such as typos, outdated references (such as to physical ballots), topics that don't properly belong in by-laws, addressing Escape New York (which he noted generates the largest amount of funds across all Club activities), and reflecting the Club's 501(c)(3) status. After discussion and upon motion made and seconded, the Board approved the proposal.

4. Holiday Party

The Board heard a report on the Holiday Party, including the venue, that 55 people had signed up so far with a goal of 130 attendees total, the need for improved marketing of the event, and a proposal to simplify the sign-up process. Peter sought general consent to allow Bob to use his discretion to allowing others to sign-up after the formal deadline.

5. Passing the Torch

Peter acknowledged the results of the Club election of new Officers and Directors beginning January 1, 2022, including those who are passing the torch (Linda→Marc, Leora→Charmaine, and Peter→Leora). Peter expressed a hearty thank you to the outgoing Board members, particularly to Linda.

President	Leora Rosenberg
VP of Programs	Steve Vaccaro
Secretary	Ed Delk
VP of Rides	Jerry Ross
Escape New York Director	Allan Friedman
Content Editor	Sheila O'Connor
A-Rides Coordinator	Michael S. Bernstein
B-Rides Coordinator	Colin Taber
C-Rides Coordinator	Marc Simkin
Membership Director	Kym Blanchard
Special Events Coordinator	Denise Alvarez-Heller
Public Relations Director	Neile Weissman
Webmaster	Natan Elman
Volunteer Coordinator	Charmaine Dixon
Treasurer	Bob Gilbert

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.