

Minutes of the March 2, 2022
Meeting of the
Board of Directors of
The New York Cycle Club, Inc.

Held Via Zoom Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

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

Leora, as President, called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the minutes of its meeting on February 2, 2022.

2. Website Update

Bob described an ongoing update to the Club website by its longtime developer Markus Sandy in Texas. The project involves upgrading the website to a more recent version of Drupal. The next step in the process is to move the draft site to a test environment, connect it with our payment systems, and test all of its functionality, which will require multiple volunteers. He noted that the current website is in a blackout period on changes pending the update. The Board discussed the project and potential alternatives, such as hosting the website in different software languages (e.g., WordPress) and the associated costs and expected effort.

3. Kit Supplier

Leora began a discussion of Pactimo, the Club's current kit supplier. She noted that the first orders have been completed. She described multiple issues with the rollout, such as problems with certain store features (discount codes, audit functionality, etc.) and the absence of clear responsibility for day-to-day management. The Board discussed these issues and agreed that Allan would manage the store in 2022.

4. By-Laws Committee

Peter introduced the next topic, which was to consider ideas presented by the By-Laws Committee (consisting of Peter, Jerry, Sheila and Charmaine). He referenced his email to the Board on March 1st. The committee's main idea was to move to a system of staggered two-year terms for officers/directors. This could be implemented as early as the November 2022 elections, when half of the board could be elected to two-year terms and the remainder to one-year terms, which would result in a staggered Board. Thereafter, the term of each officer/director would be two years, with half the Board elected each November. He noted that the term limit applicable to the President would be changed from three one-year terms to two two-year terms. The other ideas presented by the Committee included:

- Conforming the introductory “purposes” language to what we have on the website as our mission statement;
- Authorizing the Board to establish additional classes of membership (such as the once-discussed KRC membership category) without the need for related amendments to the By-Laws;
- Reducing the number of votes required to expel a member from two-thirds of the entire Board (i.e., 10) to two-thirds of those Board members present and voting;
- Removing the provision whereby the VP of Programs becomes de facto Club President upon the inability of the current President to continue, and replacing that provision with one which authorizes the Board to appoint an acting President;
- Light rewriting of the job descriptions for certain officers, which will require additional input for certain roles (e.g., Content Editor and Membership Director); and
- Extensive rewriting of the provisions regarding election procedures so as to better track what we actually do.

Peter noted that the Committee's ideas were subject to Board discussion and further revision, and that a package of formal proposals could be presented later in the year and voted upon at the November election. The Board discussed the ideas and briefly considered other potential topics for action, such as whether D-Rides require a Board-level coordinator and if the Board should do more to encourage more casual rides (25 miles or less but distinct from C-Rides) to encourage more participation by Club members. The Board decided to take not immediate action on the proposals.

5. Giving Program

Neile described his revised proposal for a Club giving program. The program would be funded using a portion of the proceeds from our successful Escape New York event in 2021. The purpose of the program would be to further benefit the cycling community in geographic areas through which the Club sponsors group rides. The giving program would begin April 15th and include an online application for \$500 awards to local organizations whose principal mission is cycling-related, or whose activities directly

benefit cycling, or has a cycling-related project. The Board would accept applications only from not-for-profit or 501(c)(3) organizations. Neile's proposed application included relevant fields such as:

- Organization
- Contact person and role in the organization
- Contact email
- Contact phone
- Mission (250 words or less)
- Project or proposed use of funds (250 words or less)
- Website
- Social media
- Comments

The Board discussed and approved the proposal with fixed \$500 awards and an application deadline of May 15, 2022.

6. Website Assistance Request from Second Wind Cycling Club

[NAME PERSON WHO PRESENTED THIS PROPOSAL] _____ discussed an email proposal he received from Second Wind Cycling Club of Boulder, Colorado (<https://m.facebook.com/groups/SecondWindBoulder/>) requesting that NYCC assist Second Wind in developing an online group ride management system. Second Wind wanted access to the source code for the Club's system to enable Second Wind to implement their own version. The Board discussed the pros and cons of the proposal, including alternative approaches that would be less intrusive and would not involve a transfer of the Club's intellectual property. After further discussion, the Board agreed that the Club would permit a representative of Second Wind to use a temporary NYCC membership to explore and demo our group ride management system. Second Wind could then design their own system with their own software developer.

7. Diversity & Inclusion Committee

Kym described the most recent meeting of the D&I Committee. Members of that committee met with representatives from Major Taylor Iron Riders to discuss a mutual partnership to sponsor a kid-focused cycling program, which would be a sort-of "Youth SIG" for teenagers who would bring their own bikes to each training session. The two clubs planned to meet over the next few weeks to further develop the idea. NYCC would contribute by sharing its training program expertise and several volunteers. The preliminary idea is to have two relatively small groups of participants with ride leadership shared by members of each club. According to Kym, the next step in the process is to develop an outline of what a SIG does and what the program would look like.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.