

Minutes October 15, 2025
Meeting of the Board of Directors of The New York Cycle Club, Inc.
Via Zoom

ATTENDEES: Colin Taber (President & Chair); Bob Cohen (Secretary); Bob Gilbert (Treasurer); Michael Diener (Director of Technology); Steve Vaccaro (VP of Rides); Anna Taruschio (A-Rides Coordinator); YJ Chen (B-Rides Coordinator); Jim Zisfein (C-Rides Coordinator); Meredith Weill (Volunteer Coordinator); Kym Blanchard (Marketing Director); Neile Weissman (Director of Public Affairs); Denise Alvarez-Heller (Events Coordinator); Allan Friedman (Escape New York Ride Director); Sheila O'Connor (Content Editor); Natan Elman (Webmaster).

ABSENT: Leora Rosenberg (Past President).

CALL TO ORDER: 18:34

1. MEETING MINUTES: The September Minutes are under review.

2. POPCORN UPDATES: (Each board member can share minor updates).

- Denise Alvarez-Heller
 - The Christmas Party is scheduled for December 9th (the second Tuesday of December as is usual) at The Ellington, 2745 Broadway @ W. 105th St.
- Neile Weissman
 - There were forty-six paid attendees for the Southampton ride weekend. The ride did not operate at as loss as was feared due to a timing proximity of the Finger Lakes weekend. Rather the event ran at capacity, earning a small profit with C-Riders comprising two-thirds of the participants. Perhaps the Southampton ride has an identity for C riders as the Finger Lakes ride weekend identifies more for A or B riders.
- Bob Gilbert
 - ENY ended up with a positive income of \$18k.
- Steve Vaccaro
 - New York City now has a 15-mph speed limit for e-bikes, e-scooters, and pedal-assisted bicycles effective October 24th. The City is initially focusing on education and warnings, using digital speed signs to help with compliance and deploying officers to monitor the new rules. This rule aims to reduce accidents and injuries on city streets.
 - Speed Limit: 15 mph for e-bikes, e-scooters, and pedal-assisted bicycles (Citibike has already throttled back its e-bikes).
 - Enforcement: The NYPD will initially issue warnings and use digital speed signs to encourage compliance.
 - Goal: To improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers, following an increase in e-bike related fatalities.
 - Application: The rule applies to all of New York City.
 - Background: A similar speed limit was already in place for stand-up e-scooters. The new rule was announced earlier in the fall to address safety concerns.
- Meredith Weill
 - The Volunteer Party was well received and accomplished under budget (kudos to Meredith for a wonderful party).
- Kym Blanchard

- The Young Majors program, which began on September 20th, had an overwhelming response; about forty kids have signed up from three locations. We will be leaving Industry City as our 'base of operations' at the end of the season and are looking for a new home, including storage (perhaps remaining in Industry City or co-oping with ENY).
- Colin Taber
 - NYCC received a missive from The Central Park Conservancy, about 'pack riding' (60 riders) in the park at dusk. We believe it is not NYCC per se as we do not currently host evening rides but riders in NYCC jerseys could have participated or been in proximity to this pack.
 - As a reminder, our agreement with the Park is:
 - Training rides conclude before 8:00 a.m. on weekdays (or occur after 8:00 p.m. in the summer or 6:00 p.m. in the winter).
 - Each group should have *fewer* than twenty riders.
 - Pedestrians have the right of way (even before 8:00 a.m.).

3. Bylaws Change

- Size of the Board
 - There is a proposal to include on the 2026 Board Election Ballot, an increase to the maximum size of the Board from fifteen elected officers to seventeen elected officers.
 - Rationale: (as presented at the September 9th Club meeting at Connolly's) As we (the Board) work to ensure club members' needs are best met, the board requests this flexibility, if and when needed.
 - Currently the Club's Bylaws (Article III. OFFICERS, Section 1. Titles of Officers) reads in part:
 - "The Board may delete or modify existing positions or create new ones; provided the Board shall notify the membership of said changes on or before the opening of nominations for election in each year for inclusion in the election for the following year's Board. Said changes shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the Board and shall result in a Board with at least nine, and no more than fifteen elected officers."
 - There was a motion to accept the proposal, see the highlighted change:
 - "...Said changes shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the Board and shall result in a Board with at least nine, and no more than seventeen elected officers." Motion passed.

4. Incident Reporting Form ("Form")

- Steve drafted a Form to collect information in the instance of physical harm during or incident to a Club ride or Club event. A Ride Leader or Club Official would complete the Form. Full instructions will be included with the publishing of the Form. There was a motion to accept the publishing of the Form; motion passed.

5. New Website Launch Plan

- Michael presented:
 - The launch date window is December 15, 2025, to January 20, 2026.
 - The details of the launch are included here: [Launch Plan](https://doc.clickup.com/1277402/p/h/16zeu-555351/f1177877cca257a)
<https://doc.clickup.com/1277402/p/h/16zeu-555351/f1177877cca257a>

6. New Club Jersey

- Kym presented:
 - The Marketing Committee wanted to create a jersey for Spring 2026 primarily that everybody would like, and secondarily, a jersey that represents who we are, has our branding and colorways, and that we could feel comfortable asking

people to wear on rides. The idea behind this is to start to create an ID for the club that harbors a community and passion about who we are. We asked a couple of vendors to create designs for our review. A sample of the selected jersey (or at least a design sketch) will be introduced at the Christmas Party.

7. 2026 Election Process

- Sheila presented:
 - The election period begins October 28th and closes November 11th.
 - Differently from prior years we are using an outside platform for the upcoming election. The platform has been evaluated and reviewed extensively. The ballot will contain a description of the role and a statement from the candidate.

ADJOURN: 20:29