

FINAL

Minutes of the September 5, 2017 Meeting
of the
Board of Directors
of the
New York Cycle Club

Present were: Christy Guzzetta (President), Eden Weiss (VP Programs), Jerry Ross (VP Rides), Steve Musso (Treasurer), Jorge Negrin (Webmaster), Margaret Kim (Membership Director), Myles Lewis (Public Relations Director), Bob Gilbert (Special Events Coordinator), Michelle Gordon (Content Editor), Michael Gately (A Rides Coordinator), Jim Finder (B Rides Coordinator), Karla Bonne (C Rides Coordinator), Linda Wintner (Escape New York Director), Gabby Warshawer (Volunteer Coordinator) and Peter Storey (Secretary).

Christy called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

1. Approval of July Minutes.

On motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the July meeting were **approved**.

2. Facebook.

Jorge plans to convert the NYCC Facebook page from a “group” to a “page”. The principal effect of this is that it will no longer be necessary to screen and admit participants to the group. Instead, contents will be actively monitored.

3. Elections (I).

Jorge summarized the elections process as explained to him, and Peter confirmed the accuracy of that description. As in past years, nominations will close at the October Club Meeting. The ballot will be posted sometime in the last two weeks of October, and voting will continue until the Club meeting on November 14th.

The subject of Elections was discussed further later in the meeting.

4. Treasurer's Report.

Current checking and savings balances total \$156,846.52, although significant ENY expenses remain to be posted. Both checking and savings are at TD Bank. In December, our accounting system will migrate from Quicken to Quickbooks.

FINAL

5. Special Events.

Bob reported that the All-Class Ride went off without a hitch. Next time we'll stagger the arrival times to avoid lines.

Bob is open to suggested venues for the Holiday Party. He will be planning for 50 more people than last year. Michelle suggested the Ainsworth Midtown, where the Young Members' Social and the C Rides Social were held.

6. Public Relations.

Myles reported that he is working on Instagram and helping Linda with ENY.

7. Programs.

The September meeting will feature Eben Weiss, the author of the Bike Snob NYC blog and of at least two books. The meeting will be sponsored by his publisher, Hachette Books. We will raffle off ten copies of his latest book and we will offer thirty additional copies at a 50% discount.

For the October meeting, a representative of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey will discuss the ongoing improvements to George Washington Bridge and other Port Authority Projects. Clif Bar will sponsor. Bob suggested that we try very hard to pack that meeting, and Michael suggested we try for press coverage.

8. Membership.

Margaret reported that our bike purchase / free membership program failed to yield any new members. Our one dollar for one month membership program has been more successful: so far, only five or six people have cancelled.

9. A Rides.

Michael is forming an *ad hoc* committee to discuss how to get more A Rides listed. He will report back in due course.

10. ENY (I).

Linda reported that 717 had registered so far. Christy suggested that if the weather is good, we can expect 50-60 more registrants on the day of the event.

The subject of ENY was discussed further later in the meeting.

11. Hal Eskenazi.

Christy reported on the progress of Hal's recovery from bypass surgery and earlier

FINAL

injuries. The Board **approved** the expenditure of \$100 for a get-well gift for Hal.

12. WCC / BTCNJ Joint Ride.

Jerry is concerned about BTCNJ's seeming unwillingness to devote resources to this ride. It was suggested that Jerry put it directly to their President: is BTCNJ participating or not?

13. Junior Membership.

Jerry's proposal from last month to recreate the Junior Membership category was **approved**. The proposal will appear on this year's ballot, and, like all proposed by-law changes, will require approval two-thirds of the votes cast to pass.

14. Ride Leader Guidelines and Message Board Policy Committees.

Jerry and Peter invited input to their respective subcommittees, either before or during their deliberation processes. Neither has begun work, but will do so once ENY is past.

15. Badges.

This process has fallen behind schedule, in part due to lack of SIG graduate lists. Jorge will pursue Fred Leffel on that front. In addition, Jorge was instructed to accept "rides led" figures at face value and not to worry about any cancellations, etc. that may have occurred.

16. Public Disagreement Among Officers/Directors.

Bob raised a recent instance in which officers/directors, speaking as such, disagreed publicly on the Message Board, and asked whether the Board thought this was a problem. Generally, the Board agreed it was, although there were also "free speech" advocates. It was agreed that, in public *fora* such as the Message Board, Officers/Directors speaking in their capacities as such should endeavor to support one another.

17. Two-year Terms.

Eden proposed that the by-laws be amended to provide for staggered two-year terms for Officers/ Directors. In his view, this would provide greater continuity in oversight and institutional memory from year-to-year. Some discussion followed, but it was agreed to take this topic up at the October meeting when all had had a greater opportunity to gather their thoughts

18. Long-Term Members.

Peter reported on his findings to date on who had been a member for 25 consecutive years. Some additional names were suggested as worthy of being looked into. After discussion, the Board removed the requirement that the membership years necessarily

FINAL

be consecutive, so long as they totaled at least twenty-five. No action was taken on what form the recognition of our long-term members should take.

19. Elections (II); ENY (II).

The Board reviewed who was running again and known likely nominations. The principal vacancy is that there is no ENY Director nominee on the known horizon.

This led to a discussion of the future of ENY, in light of the need not only for a Ride Director but also for a full committee to put it together. It was observed that it had become increasingly difficult in recent years to assemble a committee of individuals who would commit to work for the better part of a year to bring the event off, and that several members of this year's committee had decided to retire with no known replacements. While everyone agreed that ENY was an important activity of the Club and a valuable recruiting tool for new members, no clear answer to the personnel issue was identified, although Christy pledged to "recruit his brains out" to find a new Ride Director.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Peter K. Storey, Secretary