

Final

Minutes of the November 7, 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), Bob Gilbert (Special Events Coordinator), Michael Gately (A Rides Coordinator), Jim Finder (B Rides Coordinator) (by telephone), 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 October Minutes.**

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

**2. Ride Coordinator Approval.**

Jim asked which particulars of a ride listing may be modified by a ride leader without obtaining re-approval by the relevant Ride Coordinator. Jorge said he would look it up and revert to Jim.

**3. BTCNJ SIG.**

Jorge reported that the Bicycle Touring Club of North Jersey is interested in forming a training program similar to our SIGs. He said that he, Christy and Eden had attended a BTCNJ meeting to present on this topic and that it had gone well.

**4. Treasurer's Report.**

Current checking and savings balances total \$155,102.35. At the moment, ENY looks to be about \$4-5,000 in the black, but some ENY expenses remain outstanding.

Separately, the Club's accounting will switch over to Quickbooks this month.

**5. Programs.**

The November program is: "Sunscreen/Sun Protection: Myths and Realities, a presentation by Dr. Steven Comite, sponsored by Neutrogena. In addition, after the announcement of the NYCC election results, the second part of the program: "Meet Your New Board", will provide some

Final

newly elected Board members the opportunity to make brief statements to our members of their vision of their Board positions in 2018 and answer a few questions.

There will be no Club meeting in December, due to the Holiday Party.

January's meeting will be titled "The Challenges and Joys of Owning a Bike Shop in 2017".

February's meeting will be the usual SIG information meeting, and will be sponsored by R & A Cycles of Brooklyn.

#### **6. *Membership.***

Margaret reported that, so far, only two people have signed up for our bike purchase / free membership program. Overall, our membership stands in the low 2000s, although that includes the trial memberships from ENY, many of which can be expected to roll off in January.

#### **7. *A Rides.***

Michael met with the A and A Classic Coordinators about listing more A rides. The meeting went well. Gil Yang suggested getting A leader commitments via survey.

#### **8. *Incentives.***

Gabby spoke to Pactimo and Castelli about possibly switching our incentive program supply relationship to them, but, unfortunately, neither offers continuous ordering. We will probably continue to work with Champion System.

A member had asked if it were possible to donate the cash value of his incentive points to charity. The Board generally liked the idea, but reached no conclusion on how best to structure that.

Peter reminded the Board that, starting with points awarded in 2018 in respect of 2017, incentive points may be exchanged for up to three items of merchandise, instead of one, as at present. Jorge and Gabby will collaborate on how to automate that process.

#### **9. *Connolly's.***

The Board approved a proposal to present framed Club jerseys to our principal contacts at Connolly's. Eden and Gabby were charged with working out the details.

#### **10. *Website; Facebook.***

We are designing and re-designing the Drupal 7 website. Among other things, this will bring the SIGs into the automated sign-up system and simplify SIG record-keeping, although this may come too late for this year's A SIGs. Michael asked for a memo

Final

describing the proposed changes, and Jorge agreed to test sign-ups with the B-SIG in 2018.

Going forward, Facebook pages will be coordinated by the Webmaster. Also, Facebook pages will be moderated, with a slight delay before posts actually appear.

**11. *WCC / BTCNJ Joint Ride.***

Jerry and Gabby reported that this event was generally successful at the A and C levels, but that there were issues at the B level, particularly with BTCNJ. The possibility of continuing the event with Westchester Cycle Club (alone) was raised, but no decision was made.

**12. *Ride Leader Guidelines Committee.***

Jerry reported that what is there in the Ride Leader Guidelines is very good. The committee may add more material on rider etiquette, rider conduct and similar topics. Jerry feels the Committee is off to a good start, and probably needs just one more meeting to finish its work.

**13. *Badges.***

This process has fallen behind schedule, due to a technical problem that Jorge expects to have resolved shortly.

**14. *Elections.***

Peter reported that voting has begun, and that Jay Jacobson will announce the results at the Club meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

**15. *Holiday Party.***

The Holiday Party will be held on the first Tuesday of December, so the December Board meeting will have to move to the second Tuesday.

The party will be held at Carragher's on West 39<sup>th</sup> Street from 6:00 to 9:00 and will include dinner. Last year we spent \$15 per person. This year we will spend \$20 per person.

**16. *Port Authority Conversations.***

Christy has been meeting with representatives of the Port Authority every couple of months. He noted that the barricades at the NJ end of the bike path on the GWB have been moved to parallel the path, for which he thanked TA.

Christy then summarized the history of our conversations with the PA over the past few years and noted our Policy Statement on the GWB. Afterwards, Michael complimented Christy and Eden on the quality of our recent Club meeting at which the PA presented.

Final

**17. Notice of Ride Postings.**

It was noted that it is now possible to sign up for notice of new ride postings as and when they are posted. A lively discussion followed as to whether this was fair or does it give an unfair advantage to some members over others. The Board **decided** (i) to keep this feature in place for now, (ii) publicize it appropriately and (iii) refer it to the Rides Committee (the VP Rides and the three Ride Coordinators) for further discussion.

**18. Transportation Alternatives Membership.**

The Board **voted** unanimously to make the Club a corporate member of Transportation Alternatives for a cost of \$1,000. In addition to supporting the valuable work of TA, doing so will give our members discounts on TA events and allow the Club some advertising space in TA's magazine.

**19. Team RWB.**

This past Spring, the Club experimented with allowing Team Red, White and Blue, a veteran's organization in which Joe Hunt and Chris Hartmann are active, to participate in the SIGs. The Board **voted** unanimously to repeat this experiment in the Spring of 2018.

**20. Truck Rental When Metro-North is Unavailable.**

A member had asked the Board to investigate and discuss the possibility of renting trucks to transport bikes when Metro-North is unavailable, due to holiday service or otherwise. After discussion, the Board **concluded** that this occurs insufficiently frequently to justify the expense.

**21. "Off the Beaten Pavement" SIG.**

A member would like to launch a "gravel-biking" SIG and asked the Board to consider what, if any, Club action is required to do that. Jerry noted that special insurance terms apply to mountain biking beyond a specified number of rides. Jerry was charged with consulting with LAB, our insurer, to determine if the proposed activity constitutes "mountain biking" within the meaning of the policies.

The meeting then adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Peter K. Storey, Secretary