

Minutes of the July 7, 2020 Meeting  
of the  
Board of Directors  
of the New York Cycle Club

Via Zoom due to COVID19 pandemic

Present were: Peter Storey (Club President), Neile Weissman (Public Relations Director), Steve Vaccaro (VP of programs), Jerry Ross (VP of Rides), Colin Taber (B Rides Coordinator), Julie Blackburn (C Rides Coordinator), Michael Bernstein (A Rides Coordinator), Allan Friedman (ENY Director), Robert Gilbert (Treasurer), Leora Rosenberg (Volunteer Coordinator), Marc Simkin (Content Editor), Kym Blanchard (Special Events Coordinator) and Ellen Jaffe (Membership Coordinator).

Peter, as president, called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

1. Election of Kym Blanchard

On motion duly made and seconded, and after discussion, Kym Blanchard was elected Special Events Coordinator with a further responsibility of developing partnerships with minority community clubs and other organizations.

2. Public Perception, especially in Minority Communities; Revision to Mission Statement

Peter summarized his discussion with members of the Major Taylor Iron Riders Club, which discussions were motivated by a podcast interview with several of their members. He reported a strong perception in the Black community that NYCC is unwelcoming to minorities. In the discussion that followed, many felt that the behavior of ride leaders is key. Some leaders take pains to welcome all their riders and engage with them throughout the ride; others fail to do so. Some also felt that welcoming calls or emails to new members and other steps to recognize new members would be helpful. In the end, no specific actions were taken at this time, and the subject will be taken up again next month

3. Revision to Mission Statement

There followed a discussion of the Club's mission statement, as contained in Article 1 of the By-laws. A committee consisting of Peter, Ellen, Kym and Jerry was charged with coming up with proposals for a new or revised mission statement, either within the By-laws or in some other format.

4. ENY

Earlier, the Board had set the July Board meeting as a go/no go decision point for ENY for 2020. By a narrow majority, the Board decided to continue planning for the event and to take another look at the August Board meeting.<sup>1</sup>

## 5. Ride Uptake

The Board discussed why so few rides were being listed in the context of the recent survey of Member attitudes toward riding in the age of Covid-19. It was felt that, principally, people needed more time to get used to riding under these circumstances.

## 6. Ride Size.

The June 2<sup>nd</sup> guidelines were amended to increase the permitted size of rides from two leaders and four riders to two leaders and six riders OR one leader and three riders.

## 7. Other Changes to Ride Guidelines

The June 2<sup>nd</sup> guidelines were further amended to:

- a) reduce the mandated separation between bikes to one bike length;
- b) reduce the mandated interval between rides with a common start and route to fifteen minutes (down from half an hour); and
- c) allow multiple rides on one ferry, if social distancing can be maintained.

## 8. Joint Web Development

A discussion of whether and how to share web development costs with 5BBC was tabled for the time being.

## 9. Storage Locker

The issue of whether to seek a cheaper solution to storing the Club's ENY equipment was delegated to Allan and Bob to resolve.

## 10. Meeting dates and times.

Leora agreed to caucus the Board to establish a new meeting time going forward. It was agreed that the August meeting would be held at 8pm on Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was then adjourned.

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<sup>1</sup> The Board subsequently cancelled the event on July 22, 2020