

FINAL

Minutes of the March 1, 2016 Meeting
of the
Board of Directors
of the
New York Cycle Club

Present were: Christy Guzzetta (President), Jerry Ross (VP Rides), Michael S. Bernstein (C Rides Coordinator), Sam Lunetta (ENY Director), Eden Weiss (VP Programs), Brian Van Nieuwenhoven (Editor), Neile Weissman (Immediate Past President), Yvette Kosic (Special Events Coordinator), Jim Finder (B Rides Coordinator), Chris Hartman (Volunteer Coordinator) and Peter Storey (Secretary).

Christy called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM.

1. Approval of February Minutes.

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

2. Programs.

Eden reported that next week's Club meeting will be sponsored by VeloShines. VeloShines is contributing two complete kits as prizes and will give VeloShines packets to the first 100 arrivals. Also:

- April's meeting will be presented by Sean Powell of SP Carbon, and SP Carbon will sponsor the meeting.
- Jamis has agreed to donate a free bike and up to 150 pairs of bike shorts for the C SIG graduation.
- Steve Vaccaro will present on July 12 on cyclists and the law.

At this point all future club meetings except November have been planned although not all have sponsors.

3. Montauk Ride.

Brian reported on the status of Montauk ride. How the ride will be configured will depend on the availability of LIRR train space. He expects to hear from LIRR shortly. Brian asked for authority to publicize the ride via a banner under the website carousel. This was **Approved**. He also asked for a waiver of the 10 day Advanced sign-up limitation and this too was **Approved**.

4. Advocacies.

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Eden noted that his presentation before the Prospect Park Community Committee was well received.

With respect to the GWB, Christy reported that he had met with Bill Young of the Port Authority. Noting that we had once had a seat on the Bridge Remediation Committee but no longer do, Christy would like to reestablish that relationship so as to work directly with the Port Authority on the reconstruction of the bike path approaches and other GWB-related issues. He believes that the Port Authority is receptive to the idea of our rejoining the committee. Discussion followed, but no action was taken by the Board at this time.

5. *Rider Experience.*

Jim noted that even among B rides of the same level (e.g. "B-16"), different rides often require greater levels of experience or conditioning. He asked for authority to require ride leaders to so indicate when their rides require greater experience, conditioning, or other attributes. This was **approved**.

6. *ENY.*

Sam distributed the sponsorship packet for ENY, which describes sponsorship opportunities for the event and is intended to be distributed to potential sponsors. He noted that, for the first time, we will be seeking cash sponsorships as well as in-kind contributions.

With the sponsorship packet, Sam also distributed an organization chart for this year's ENY. He stressed the importance of the second row of the chart, as these people will likely be the successors to this year's committee. Sam stressed that it would be helpful if Board members would try to get a sponsor packet in front of anyone they know who might be interested.

Colin Taber will run the festival at Sakura Park. Karen Ard is seeking to persuade Bike Expo to buy a tent at Sakura as exhibitors. Separately Sam is working on entertainment. He hopes to have a real stage for this year.

Publicity efforts will begin this week with a "save the date" banner on the website (this to avoid clashing with the SIGs), and further efforts will extend to the web page, Facebook, Bike New York, Transportation Alternatives and other outlets. There will be posters in bike shops.

Christy concluded the discussion by emphasizing the importance of ENY to the club and asking all Board members to use their best efforts to ensure a successful outcome.

7. *B-STs Leaders.*

A discussion of the need for B STS leaders and possible incentive schemes to attract them was postponed to next month.

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8. Memorial Day / Berkshires.

The Board then discussed publicity arrangements for the Berkshires weekend. A "save the date" notice will be added to the carousel on the website, and a webpage will be created that includes a list of hotels and advertises the social activities that are planned. It was agreed that, as in past years, there should be an information session for the weekend where people's questions will be addressed, and there was preliminary discussion of possible venues for that session.

Jim observed that C rider participation in the weekend tends to be weak and recommended more aggressive outreach to our C riders. One suggested possibility was emailing the "save the date" item to them directly.

Christy then reviewed the social arrangements. There will be a "vegan pig roast" for Saturday evening for \$35 per person BYOB. This price assumes a 50 person minimum participation. We would hold this event in a park in Sheffield that has a covered pavilion. There would be no charge for the use of the park although a donation would be expected. On Sunday evening, there would be an ice cream social from roughly 9:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.

9. Member Survey.

Chris proposed that the Board survey the membership to determine what the membership wants in terms of activities and improvements to the Club generally. Chris undertook to prepare a first draft of the survey for approval by the Board. Board members would be encouraged to make suggestions for the survey, and no survey would be distributed to the membership until and unless the board was satisfied with it. This proposal was **approved** by the Board.

10. Use of Club Funds.

Christy noted that our cash reserves are healthy and reminded the Board that a relatively small investment of Club funds had significantly enhanced our 2015 Holiday Party. He asked Board members to consider other, similar investments that the Club might make to enhance our activities. No further action was taken at this time.

The meeting then adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Peter K. Storey,
Secretary