

FINAL

Minutes of the April 5, 2016 Meeting  
of the  
Board of Directors  
of the  
New York Cycle Club

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

Christy called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM.

**1. Approval of March Minutes.**

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

**2. Kids Ride Club Matching Grant.**

Jerry introduced a proposal, whereby the club would set aside a fixed sum as a matching grant for the benefit of Kids Ride Club. No specific sum was requested, but Jerry said he was thinking on the order of \$5000.

Sam noted that this year, for the first time, the ENY sign-up process will allow entrants to contribute to their choice of a selected group of cycling charities, of which Kids Ride Club is one. Sam noted that Jerry's proposal was not inconsistent with this, but suggested that the two fund-raising strategies be coordinated.

Objections were raised that historically ENY is the Club's charitable giving mechanism and, as well, that money raised from dues should be used for the benefit of the membership only.

Christy asked the Board to vote on whether, in concept, Club funds should be made available for this purpose on this one occasion, noting that there was as yet no specific proposal and that a vote on a specific proposal if any, would follow in the future.

The Board **Approved**, in concept, the use of Club funds for this purpose on this occasion and directed Jerry to confer with Sam and to develop a specific proposal for the Board to consider.

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### **3. *Programs.***

Eden reported that next week's Club meeting will feature Shawn Powell of SP Carbon speaking on the subject of bike tech and safety and will be sponsored by SP Carbon. Also:

- On April 18<sup>th</sup>, Reyna Franco will hold a special presentation at Connolly's on nutrition for cyclists, especially during the SIG.
- May 10<sup>th</sup> will be the B-SIG Graduation, sponsored by Gran Fondo New Jersey.
- May 24<sup>th</sup> will be the C-SIG Graduation, sponsored by Jamis Bicycles and Echelon Cycles.

At this point, we have speakers, although not necessarily sponsors, for all Club meetings through the end of the year.

### **4. *George Washington Bridge.***

Christy referred to his meetings with the Port Authority aimed at regaining our seat on the Bicycle Path Remediation Committee (which had become vacant upon the end of Eden's Board service in December, 2014) and to Section 5(a) of Article III of the By-Laws which empowers the President to assign a member to represent the Club to all outside parties. He announced that he was appointing Eden as the Club's representative to the Committee.

Christy stressed that the Club's participation on the Committee does not, in his view, represent an endorsement of the Port Authority's positions, but rather affords the Club the opportunity to learn of and respond to any new developments on the bridge. He emphasized that access to this give-and-take was important to protecting our access to the bridge.

There followed a vigorous discussion of the issue, including questions of whether the Committee still has work to do and will continue to meet (Christy understands that it does and it will), whether the Committee has a meaningful voice or exists only to ratify decisions of the Port Authority, and whether the Club has the clout to actually affect the decisions of the Port Authority (probably not).

Because Christy's designation of Eden is pursuant to his powers under the By-Laws, no Board action was taken. A discussion of the Club's substantive position on the reconstruction of the GWB bike paths was postponed to next month.

### **5. *Advocacies: Prospect Park and Tappan Zee Bridge.***

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Eden noted that the re-paving of the Prospect Park loop is well underway and nearly 75% has been completed. Credit for this improvement goes to DOT, the Prospect Park Alliance, the Prospect Park Community Committee (of which Eden is a member) and various bike clubs.

On motion duly made and seconded and after discussion, Carol Waaser's comment letter concerning the proposed Tappan Zee Bridge bike path, which was previously reviewed by the Board was **Approved**.

### **6. ENY.**

Sam reported that registration for ENY would open at the end of the week. Sponsorship is coming together.

Sam is also working on the jersey and socks for the event. He is looking for a uniform look across all graphics.

Christy asked how we can better integrate ENY with the rest of the Club and involve the membership more? Possibilities he mentioned included merging the volunteer parties, holding a members-wide contest to select the ENY jersey, and giving the membership some say in the selection of charities. Sam agreed to discuss these and other ideas with the ENY Committee. Sam and Eden will also confer on whether part of a Club meeting should be set aside to promote ENY and its volunteering opportunities.

### **7. Berkshires / Memorial Day.**

Yvette announced that there will be an information session about the weekend at Draught 55 on April 20th. The "Vegan Pig Roast" is coming together, although there are some details that remain to be discussed between Yvette and Christy.

On the ride front, B Rides have been listed, and Christy has two A Rides that he will list. Mike Bernstein was not available to discuss C Rides.

### **8. Newcomers / All-Class Rides.**

Yvette confirmed that the Newcomers Ride is on for June 12<sup>th</sup> in Pascack Park. Arrangements for the All-Class Ride are also coming together.

### **9. e-Weekly.**

Brian reported that we need a new template for the e-Weekly. This should be produced by a professional designer, which Brian estimated could be done for approximately \$800. The Board authorized Brian to solicit proposals.

### **10. Incentive Scheme for New Leaders.**

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Christy noted that we produce lots of SIG graduates, relatively few of whom go on to lead rides. He suggested that we enhance our current ride leader incentive scheme to give additional points to SIG graduates who lead rides in their year of graduation in accordance with the following schedule:

1 <sup>st</sup> Ride in year of Graduation	5 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ride in year of Graduation	4 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> Ride in year of Graduation	3 points
4 <sup>th</sup> Ride in year of Graduation	2 points

He went on to explain that, on these point totals, a new SIG graduate who led four rides in his/her year of graduation would earn enough points for a Club jersey.

On motion duly made and seconded, the proposal was **Approved**.

[N.B. Subsequent to the meeting, the Webmaster indicated to the Board that this proposal in its current form won't work with our current point management capabilities].

### **11. Membership in NJ Bike/Walk Coalition.**

On motion duly made and seconded and after discussion, Christy's proposal to spend \$250 to join the New Jersey Bike/Walk Coalition was **Approved**.

### **12. Investments in Club Activities.**

A discussion of what is the 'right' cash balance for the Club to maintain going forward was adjourned in the absence of the Club Treasurer.

### **13. Summer Streets.**

Brian then raised the possibility of the Club participating in the City's "Summer Streets" program of car-free Sundays. He stressed that this would enhance our community visibility. Sam estimated that the cost of a tent and a banner would come to approximately \$1500. Reception was generally favorable, and Brian was directed to come back with a proposal next month.

The meeting then adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter K. Storey, Secretary