

Minutes of the May 5, 2015 Meeting
of the
Board of Directors
of the
New York Cycle Club

Present were: Neile Weissman (President), Sam Lunetta (ENY Director, attending by phone), Yvette Kotic (Special Events Coordinator), Brian Van Nieuwenhoven (Editor), Michael S Bernstein (C Rides Coordinator), Jerry Ross (VP Rides), Katharine Green (Public Relations Director) and Peter Storey (Secretary).

Neile called the meeting to order at 6:48 PM.

1. *Berkshires Weekend.*

Yvette reported that the rides are coming together, and Hank Schiffman is working on Metro-North arrangements. The Message Board announcement went up this weekend, as did the Carousel announcement. Signup/paypal buttons will be added. The cost of the cocktail hour will be \$20.

2. *Newcomers Ride.*

Yvette reported that pavilion rental at Rye came to \$1,000, leaving about \$900 for food. That would feed about 170 attendees, assuming we do sandwiches, but alternatives are possible. Yvette and Neile will check out possible alternatives from Port Chester.

3. *New Paltz.*

Neile reported there was no real news of note regarding the New Paltz weekend. We are awaiting a contract, but the New Paltz people seem fairly relaxed.

4. *Advocacy.*

Neile reported that he spoke at the Port Authority meeting last week. The PA estimates that bike usage of the bridge will grow at 7.2% p.a. over the next ten years which will result in a doubling of use over that period. Similarly, the city estimates that bike lane usage will also double over that period. Thus, in his view, the current Port Authority proposal will be obsolete in ten years, while the *Cyclists' Proposal* that is being advocated by Neile, CB 12, a number of bike shops and others will not.

5. Programs.

Neile noted that the May program at the Brooklyn Historical Society was coming together. David Herlihy will be the speaker. Neile is also trying to arrange for the founder of the Afghan national women's cycling team to address the club in September and for Hayes Lord of the DOT to do the same in October.

6. Message Board.

Last month's "in committee" discussion of trolling on the message board and whether membership in the Club should be required to post messages to the message board continued.

7. Board Composition.

There followed a discussion of the current composition of the Board and the job descriptions of the Club's various officers as stated in the bylaws. Each attending director was requested to evaluate whether his or her job description accurately reflected what he or she is doing and is expected to do and was asked whether he or she would have run for that job if it did not come with a seat on the Board. There was a consensus that the positions we have presently are the right ones, except that (i) the position of the Merchandise Manager has been overtaken by events and automation and should be dropped and (ii) consideration should be given to the creation of a Volunteer Coordinator. Most attending directors felt that their position was adequately described, with the notable exception of the VP Rides, whose duties, in the light of the existence of A, B and C Ride Coordinators, are somewhat ill-defined. Most attending directors felt that they would have taken the jobs they have even without Board seats, but most also felt that the officers of the Club should continue to comprise the Board.

Concern was expressed that some positions, notably those of President and Special Events Coordinator may have grown too big to ask one individual to handle, but it was felt preferable to call more on volunteers and committees than to divide those jobs. Concern was also raised about continuity: under our current elections cycle, a new Board hardly has time to gel before various springtime decisions need to be made. Consideration might therefore be given to some combination of (i) shortening the nomination period, (ii) holding earlier elections and (iii) seating the new Board in the late fall. Another idea was to move to alternating two-year terms for directors/officers, so that, at any time, at least half the Board would have at least one year's experience.

The upshot of the discussion was that while some tweaks may be in order, our governance structure is basically sound and should be continued in its present form.

8. 9W Cleanup Ride.

A second (actually first) Rte. 9W Cleanup Ride was scheduled for June 13th. As before, Jerry will coordinate.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Peter K. Storey
Secretary