

Minutes for Thread City Cyclers

August 27, 2018, 7:00 PM
Generations Family Health Center
40 Mansfield Avenue, Willimantic, CT

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Larry Waksman at 7:07pm and was presided over by Larry Waksman.

Attendees

Voting Board members in attendance: Larry W., John H., Fran S., Kerry L., Paul B., Cindy B.,
Other club members in attendance: Beth H., Ray T.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the August meeting was made by Larry W. and seconded by John H. The minutes were approved unanimously by the board.

Treasurer's Report

- Given by John H.
- There is no change in account balance or membership this month
- Question about club donation to NWS
 - Usually the board donates \$500 to the PTA at NWS
 - Board unanimously approves \$250 to be donated to NWS for 2018
- For members who join after 9/1 dues will cover 2019

Ride Committee Report

- Last ride committee meeting was 8/15/18; Minutes compiled and reviewed by Fran S.
 - The Ride Committee Coordinator (RCC) as defined in the by-laws is an elected position with a two-year term limit. There is a concern that there may be no candidates for the position in 2019 when Fran's term ends.
 - RCC options proposed
 - Maintain the bylaws with no change; the RCC will step down after this year
 - Change the bylaws to abolish the term limit for this position
 - If no candidate, the board could appoint a committee and the committee could appoint a coordinator as an interim solution
 - Change the bylaws to establish a 2-year term renewable with no term limit for this position
 - Change the by laws to make the RCC an appointed position and a member-at-large of the board of directors

- RCC discussion of options – opinions/thoughts/solutions proposed
 - “The position is a Job not an office” (Saul N.)
 - Term limits are not necessary (Saul N.)
 - Should recruit a RCC assistant who could learn the job if Fran ever leaves (Saul N.)
 - Maintain continuity of work at this position (Saul N.)
 - Few – if any – club members have the qualifications to do the job (Martin S.)
 - RCC should understand the dynamics of all different ride levels (Martin S.)
 - RCC should not be an electable board position (Dave W.)
 - Volunteers can be difficult to find. If one is willing and qualified, we should let them continue (Dave W.)
 - RCC needs organizational skills; the ride committee does set policy (Beth H.)
 - The position needs continuity, diplomacy, longstanding history with the club, tenacity, reliability (Fran S.)
 - The Ride Committee makes some policies and recommends others (Fran S.)
 - The Ride committee agreed that Fran should create a job description for the position of Ride Committee Coordinator (Fran, S.)
- Skills Workshops
 - Ron may be able to lead a few of these in the fall or during the winter
 - Discussion about fall prevention and other topics for workshops
 - Riding side-by-side without half-wheeling
 - Falling back if not a strong descender
 - Verbal and non-verbal communication skills
 - General basic skills
 - Bike set-up as a winter topic
 - Suggestion to recruit other workshop leaders
 - Will look at next series of Bike Mansfield skills workshops
- Default Rides: Martin offered to accompany Ron as they arrange a time to mark out the routes.
- Discussed concern about riders who get in over their head with a ride that is too fast for them. Some solutions proposed:
 - Attempt to confirm the rider’s ability early in the ride
 - Designating a rider to escort the weaker rider back to the ride start
 - Designating a lieutenant to stay back with the weaker rider
 - Designating a lieutenant to lead the ride while the ride leader escorts the weaker rider back to the start
 - The best solution for each situation could be determined during the ride

- Next Ride Committee meeting: October 22, 7:00pm at 79 Independence Dr., Mansfield Center, CT

TCC Century

- John to reimburse Kerry L. for \$22 for paint used to mark the route

Steeplechase Recap

- Smallish crowd – Likely due to the threat of rain
- John H. to do photo op for Perception Programs
- Who took the group photo?

Windham Recreation Bike Safety Day

- Windham Rec Center Bike Safety Day Saturday, 9/29/18
- Volunteers needed
- Larry will send the info to Fran to include in the next weekly ride notice

2019 Board Membership

- Ride Committee Coordinator term limit ends after 2018 – Board discussion
 - Larry will send a Mailchimp announcement to all club members to solicit candidates for all board offices for 2019 with special emphasis on the need for a Ride Committee Coordinator
- Discussion of whether to change the bylaws and how to address the club about this issue
 - Announce to the club the term limit for Ride Committee Coordinator and explain that we need a candidate
 - Opinions about changing bylaws
 - As long as there is no term limit, nobody else will step up to challenge the office of a seated candidate (John H.)
 - “Term limits are healthy for an organization” (Beth H.)
 - But what if no candidate steps up?
 - “With a critical need somebody will step up.” (John H.)
 - Should we increase the term limit for all officers to 3 years?
 - We should prepare for the possibility that nobody will step up (Fran S.)
 - Discussion of Ride Committee Coordinator duties
 - Should some duties be delegated?
 - The ride committee should be doing more/This is too much to ask from one person (Kerry L.)
 - Someone else could be Ride Committee Coordinator in title while Fran maintains her current duties
 - Ride Committee Coordinator Responsibilities
 - Appoint ride level coordinators at each level for Saturday club rides
 - Assist with recruiting ride leaders for each group for Saturday club rides

- Facilitate and preside over ride committee meetings including appointing a secretary to take notes
- Maintain weekly ride statistics for Saturday club rides
- Compose a weekly ride summary and club communications email using Mailchimp
- Represent the ride committee at TCC Board Meetings and present a report
- Field concerns from club members regarding the Saturday club rides

Other Business

- Need to share the members list
- Another ride to announce to the club: Tour de Shore in Madison, CT
- Question about ride level paces
 - B, B+, and Alt B are all posted at 14 – 15 mph
 - Rides should be posted within the defined ranges for each level
- Discussion of how to handle riders who get in over their head
 - The pace defines the ride level, not the length of the ride, hill profile, etc.,
 - Possible solutions include
 - Designate somebody to escort the rider home
 - Suggest the rider could call someone for transportation
- The Ekonk Turkey Farm ride was rained out

Next Meeting

- October 15, 2018 to be held at Generations Family Health Center

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned by Larry W.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia M. Bean

Secretary
Thread City Cyclers

Date of Approval