

Bike to the Future Monthly Meeting

January 8, 2013 – 5:43 to 7:25 PM
Sport for Life Centre, 145 Pacific Ave

Minutes

Directors:

Present: Jeremy Hull (meeting chair), Tom McMahon, Kevin Miller (notes taker), Dave Elmore, Charles Feaver, Kaye Grant, Chris Chypyha, Barrett Ens, Bill Newman, Jim Falloon (at 6:15)

Regrets: Curt Hull, Loren Braul, Amanda San Filippo (Bicycle Valet Winnipeg)

Members

Present: Mark Cohoe (Executive Director), Bryan Goods, Philip Wolfart, Kevin Champagne, Anders Swanson, Bev Peters, Bromley Basford (6:10 to 7:00)

Regrets: Nathan Wild, John Wilmott

Non-members

Present: Sarah Thiessen (UWSA Ice Riders), Janelle Laing (UWSA Ice Riders)

1. Welcome and Introductions

- All attendees introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Agenda

- We approved the agenda by consensus.

3. Approval of Minutes from the previous Monthly Meeting

- The November Monthly Meeting minutes, which have been posted at biketothefuture.org/about/meetings, were briefly reviewed and then approved by consensus.

4. Sharing

a. Good News!

- The *1 Metre Please* cycling jersey fundraiser initiated by the Manitoba Cycling Association's Currie Gillespie had a net profit of \$1400+. BttF was a 50/50 partner (we advertised it), so we have received \$700+.

b. Emerging Challenges:

- Another cyclist was killed (Regent Ave near Brewster Street in Transcona, drunk driver).
- Plowing of snow from curb lanes, cycle tracks, and bike lanes (and other cycling infrastructure) has been poor. We need to ensure that "good snow plowing" is included in the City's upcoming Bicycling Strategy.
- A part of the Assiniboine Ave cycle track has been blocked off until 2015! As accommodation/rerouting of cyclists and pedestrians has been an issue in many spots throughout the city, we will need to push for better strategies in the upcoming pedestrian and cycling strategy. It sometimes seems like parking space for contractors is deemed more important than sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and cycle tracks. At least we were able to convince the City to shorten the length of the blocked-off area, so there is now access to the ramp to the Assiniboine River trail.

5. Monthly Updates

a. Finances

i. Financial Statement (Bill)

- Bill didn't present a financial statement because he still hasn't completed the conversion to his new accounting system.
- Guidance and training for non-profit organizations is available from Volunteer Manitoba and others.
- Mark and Kaye will meet with Bill to produce a financial statement.

ii. Budget (Jeremy)

- A discussion about a budget was tabled until we have a current financial statement.

b. Administration

- Fundraising, Grants, and Partnerships (Bromley Basford & Mark)
 - Bromley works for the Winnipeg Adult Education Centre (WAEC), and as a volunteer he leads a Commuter Club that obtains bicycles from the UofWinnipeg Bike Lab and teaches club members everything they need to be self-sufficient commuter cyclists.
 - Bromley asked Mark if BttF wanted to be involved in a [Red Moon Road fundraising concert](#) on February 2. The WAEC Commuter Club needs another organization to sponsor the concert (and obtain the liquor license). The profit will be shared. The “business plan” for the concert was clearly explained to us. Bromley and Mark will do all the work. BttF can set up our mobile display trailer.
Motion to sponsor this fundraising concert: approved by consensus.
- Executive Director’s report (Mark)
 - Mark’s report is attached.
- Communications / new website
 - See Mark’s report.
 - Bill reminded directors that a UserID and password has been set up each of us. We should login to add content (etc) and comment on existing content. v4.biketothefuture.org .

c. Public Advocacy

- **Province** (Charles)
 - Charles’ report is attached.
- **City** (Mark)
 - We hope to implement a City Committee structure that has five directors (or BttF members) each responsible for one of the City’s five Community Committee areas. These City Committee reps would receive direction and information from Mark.
 - The City unveils its Capital Budget and its Operating Budget tomorrow. We hope the budgets increase active transportation spending, which is suggested by their one-year-old Master Transportation Plan. We also hope enough money is budgeted to fund the best cycling option for the Pembina-Jubilee Underpass.
 - The City’s Public Works Committee meets on Friday to discuss the City administration’s report on reducing the default speed limit of residential streets to 40KPH. Their report is flawed, superficial and biased. Tom and Mark have produced a response, which Mark will present.
 - The resurrection of the City’s Active Transportation Advisory Committee is moving forward, but an initial meeting has not yet been held.

d. Safety and Education (Dave)

- Dave’s report is attached.

e. Community Bike Events

- [Winter Bike to Work Day](#) is on Friday February 15. Anders is part of the organizing team. The Forks’ *Ice It To Work Day* (on the same day) is separate, but participating in it is essentially participating in *Winter Bike to Work Day*.
- Bryan presented an update about the Ride of Silence on Wednesday May 15. He’ll present posters and the route at the February Monthly Meeting.

f. Bicycle Valet Winnipeg (Amanda)

- Amanda has little to report. She’s working on a contract with the Winnipeg Roller Derby League and she will soon contact the Blue Bombers.

6. Issues

- None.

7. Other Items

- Anders will be attending a Winter Cycling Conference in Finland in mid February. He explained the benefits that will result from him attending. He has obtained some funding from a few other organizations; he asked for \$500 from BttF. After much discussion about this, Kevin Miller and Bev Peters each donated \$250 to BttF to be used to support Anders’ trip.
Motion for BttF to contribute another \$250 (for a total of \$750): approved by consensus.

8. Upcoming Dates

- a. **February Monthly Meeting:** Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 5:30.

Bike to the Future
Executive Director's Report
January 2013

Membership Update

- Membership stands at 782 paid members.
- We have 1657 addresses on our announce list serve.

Membership Communications

I've had a fair bit of correspondence regarding the closure of the Assiniboine cycle track in front of the construction zone between Hargrave and Garry. While the cycle track will remain closed until 2015, we at least managed to have the closure pushed east of the underpass to allow cyclists to have access to the trail leading to the River Walk, which connects to the Forks.

City of Winnipeg Pedestrian & Cycling Strategies

I was in contact with a number of firms (both local and international) regarding the city's request for proposal to give our perspective on what was needed/desired as part of the process. The contract will be awarded

Website Migration

- News Items and Events are currently being posted to both the new and old site.
 - We don't really have a spot for local media on the new site.
- Minutes have been migrated, as have the 2012 publications. I should have the publications completely migrated by next week.
- Archived Latest News, Local Media, and Events have also been migrated, although work could be done on adding tags. Links will be broken when we switch to the new website.
- Safety & Education has also been migrated.

Work still needs to be done on the following sections:

- Riding in Winnipeg
- Partners
- Join/Donations
- Volunteer
- Profiles – We need content, so board biographies would be great!
- Advocacy Resources
- Local Resources

The goal is to have the new web-site up and running by the end of January

Fundraising/Grants

Winter Concert Fundraiser

I was approached by Bromley Basford about taking part in a fundraiser concert he was planning for February 2nd at the Unitarian Church on Wellington Avenue near Academy. Bromley will discuss this further at the monthly meeting.

Membership Drive

As a pre-cursor to any membership drive, I will be working on an accomplishments document that will make clear the benefits of membership & donations.

I have set up monthly and annual donations on our Paypal account to help facilitate donations once the new website is activated. The goal will be to have a postcard sized handout to help make it easier to sign up memberships or monthly/annual donations. This still needs to get integrated into the new website, with descriptions of the benefits of membership/donations clearly stated.

Projects

Planning

Charleswood Transportation Study

I presented at the Assiniboia Community Committee on December 4th. The Committee asked that our requests/comments be reviewed with a report back in 90 days.

Education

As part of a more general look into insurance, I will be looking into insurance requirements/options and costs in the next month.

Encouragement

Kickstand

The Kickstand Event was a success, with approximately 120 people attending.

Ice it To Work Day/Winter Bike to Work Day

I've signed us up for a Pit Stop as Part of Ice it to Work Day/Winter Bicycle to Work Day. It will require us to have the bike trailer out from 6-9am on February 15th. I am meeting with the Forks on January 15th to get further details.

Safety and Education Report – January 2013

Submitted by: Dave Elmore, Director of Safety and Education

Education Development Sub-Committee

At the December 18 planning session a sub-committee was established to look at education opportunities and the development of resources. The committee includes Dave Elmore (chair), Curt Hull, Charles Feaver, Jim Falloon, and Loren Brault. The first meeting of this sub-committee is expected in January.

MPI's Cycling Champion Courses

MPI has not begun to look at further courses for the spring of 2013, however they definitely will be offered. MPI is hopeful that with a early spring offering as opposed to summer (as in 2012) they will see interest levels rise. While this program is administered by MPI directly, it is based on Can-Bike and would be taught by BttF instructors. There is also an option on the table to use this course to provide some training to teachers involved in Bike to School Week (BTSW). MPI has indicated that they would be willing to sponsor BTSW and would provide the training as part of their "in-kind" funding. At present the Bike to Work Day team is looking for additional sponsorship in order to hold the BTSW event. A decision on whether this will proceed will be made this month.

Bike Safety Video

No update on the development of the video. The first section which deals with helmets is complete and awaiting release in the spring.

Can-Bike

Cycling Canada is currently in the process of updating the Can-Bike curriculum and documents. This is expected to be complete by spring. At this time there are no Can-Bike courses planned or scheduled.

There will be a push to provide Kid's Can-Bike courses as the funding that was received from Public Health Agency of Canada in 2012 to develop Can-Bike instructors was based on education related to children. At this time the Safety and Education committee along with the recently developed Can-Bike instructors is discussing opportunities to try and get education into the schools. The Bike to School Week event (indicated above) may offer an opportunity to get something started in at least a few schools.

Leisure Guide Courses

The City of Winnipeg has again contacted Dave to see if there was interest in offering skills training through the Leisure Guide this spring. A poll of the available instructors indicated interest in pursuing this as an opportunity to reach cyclists until another alternative for delivery can be developed. We are currently negotiating with the City to see if these courses can be offered in more locations throughout Winnipeg using our newly minted instructors. We are also negotiating the fees that are offered to run these courses in hopes of making them more sustainable.

BttF Provincial Issues Report

January 7, 2013

In the fall, Bike to the Future collaborated with the Manitoba Cycling Association to make its first ever presentation to the Public Utilities Board (PUB) expressing concerns that MPI fails to teach motorists how to drive safely near cyclists, both in their Driver Education booklet and in their public advertising.

On December 3rd, the PUB issued an order to MPI that followed up on several our points [<http://www.pub.gov.mb.ca/pdf/mpi07/157-12.pdf>].

1. Section 10.0: “It is therefore recommended that: 3. MPI review and act upon the recommendations put forward by the presenters from Bike to the Future and the Manitoba Cycling Association with respect to road safety and messaging to motorists regarding cyclists.”
2. Section 11: “It is therefore ordered that: A Road Safety Research Technical Conference take place to discuss Road Safety matters, involving interveners and community partners, to be held on or before March 31, 2013.” ... that the PUB expects MPI “would seek to involve scientist and experts from North America on road safety issues such as ... roadway bicycle safety, and the role of other road safety investments” and will include in the conference interveners and community partners, among others. Further, “The Board anticipates that at the next GRA [General Rate Application] proceeding, MPI will come forward with new road safety initiatives, including with respect to ... bicyclists ..., in addition to its ongoing initiatives relative to unsafe speed, impaired driving and seatbelt usage.
3. The PUB noted the Corporation’s goal, as stated in its Strategic Plan, that it will become a community leader and act as a central repository to facilitate the sharing of data amongst stakeholders for research and making informed decisions, and to take a more active role in road safety research. This responds to Bike to the Future’s request for more and better data relating to cycling safety.

The Road Safety Technical Conference could have a huge impact on cycling and safety if it brings in experts from cities that have successfully increased cycling traffic, and develops a consensus among leaders of government departments and police forces on how to manage circulation in order to increase the safety of cyclists. We have therefore recommended the Province hold its consultations on regulations concerning cycling and the Highway Traffic Act after this conference.

BttF sent a follow up letter under Tom’s signature to Marilyn McLaren, MPI CEO, suggesting ways we could help expedite the organization of the conference.

http://biketothefuture.org/attachments/0000/1841/2012-12-11_lettertompi_pubrecommendations.pdf