

Bike to the Future – 2008 Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, November 18, 2008, 5:30 PM

Eco-Centre, 3rd Floor – 303 Portage Avenue (Mountain Equipment Co-op building)

Minutes

1. Welcome

The AGM was called to order at 5:35 PM.

2. Introductions

Members present (39): Kevin Miller (Meeting Chair), Jackie Avent, Mark Cohoe, Curt Hull, David Wieser, Jeremy Hull, Rob Cosco, Dave Elmore, Ben Goldstein, Liz Erickson, Holly Poklitar, Ron Brown, Don English, Philip Roadley, Shannon Keys, Janice Lukes, Brion Dolenko, Lindsey McBain, Gord McGonigal, Ted Mann, Guy Madill, Jessie Klassen, James Beddome, Caitlin McIntyre, Todd Andres, Bev Peters, Janice Briggs, Ian Hall, Hal Loewen, Ken Berg, Andrew Ridd, Brian Ridd, Mike Lennon, Vicky Reaney, Mike Tutthill, Gil Rheault, Jan Stewart, Barre Hall, John Wilmott

Members regrets: Karin Kliewer, Cory Bellhouse, Anders Swanson, Gareth Simons, Ruth Schappert, Ray Yuen, Sigrid Quinn

3. Adoption of minutes from the 2007 AGM on November 13, 2007

Motion: to adopt the minutes. **Moved:** Jackie Avent. **Seconded:** Jeremy Hull. **Carried.**

4. Presentation of Directors' Annual Reports (all reports are attached)

Co-Chairs: Kevin Miller

City Committee: Rob Cosco

Provincial Committee: Jeremy Hull

Safety & Education Committee: Dave Elmore

Website & Communications Committee: Ben Goldstein

5. Presentation of Annual Financial Statements

Treasurer Curt Hull delivered year-end financial statements (see attached)

Motion to accept annual financial statement. **Moved** David Wieser, **Seconded:** James Beddome; **Carried**

6. Amendment to Organizational Bylaws

Motion: to change *cyclists* to *citizens* in section 1.04. **Moved:** Ron Brown. **Seconded:** Janice Lukes. **Carried.**

7. Election of a new Board of Directors

- All 12 directors elected for a two-year term at our 2007 AGM retain their positions, but
 - Molly McCracken resigned as a Director last April.
 - Ben Goldstein is resigning as a Director.
 - Karin Kliewer is resigning as a Director.
 - Mark Cohoe is resigning as Secretary.

Therefore, the Board vacancies are Secretary and three Directors.

All four of these positions will be two-year terms.

- Nominations:
 - Karin Kliewer (Secretary). Nominated by Mark Cohoe & Kevin Miller.
 - Mark Cohoe (Director). Nominated by Kevin Miller & Jackie Avent.
 - Liz Erickson (Director): Nominated by Curt Hull & Jeremy Hull.
 - Holly Poklitar (Director): Nominated by Jeremy Hull & Jackie Avent.

Motion: Our 2008-2009 Board of Directors are

Co-Chairs: Jackie Avent & Kevin Miller

Secretary: Karin Kliewer

Treasurer: Curt Hull

Directors: Rob Cosco, Jeremy Hull, Dave Elmore, Cory Bellhouse, David Wieser, Mark Cohoe, Holly Poklitar, Liz Erickson

Moved: Ben Goldstein. **Seconded:** James Beddome. **Carried.**

8. Call for adjournment at 6:02 PM

Moved: Mark Cohoe. **Seconded:** Jackie Avent. **Carried.**

Bike to the Future Co-Chair -- 2008 Annual Report

by Kevin Miller

The idea of "Bike to the Future in Winnipeg" was conceived in July 2006. The forum entitled "Bike to the Future" was held in September 2006. A group of us started meeting in October 2006. We were incorporated as "Bike to the Future Inc" in February 2007, and our inaugural AGM was in May 2007. We're 1½ to 2½ years old, depending on how you look at it; we've had an unprecedented impact upon bicycling in Winnipeg in a fairly short timeframe.

Bike to the Future continued to evolve in 2008. In particular, our relationship with many partners grew much stronger, especially with the City of Winnipeg and the Manitoba Cycling Association. Other great partnerships are listed on our website on the "Get Involved" page.

Notable among our many achievements in 2008 are

- a very strong participation on the City's *Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC)*,
- the inaugural *Bike to Work Day* in June,
- an enhanced fall forum (*Why Not Winnipeg?*) in October that was attended by Mayor Sam Katz and other civic and provincial politicians and leaders, and
- our membership exceeded 600 people.

Our directors, core volunteers, and supporting members have contributed thousands of hours of expertise and hard work to produce all these achievements.

We also had fun at events like the *Bike Shorts Film Festival*.

We can all look forward to many more achievements in 2009:

- A partnership between the City of Winnipeg, Bike to the Future, and the Manitoba Cycling Association is well on its way to producing a new Winnipeg cycling map by Earth Day in April.
- The City's *ATAC* is planning for more infrastructure developments and improvements for 2009.
- *Bike to Work Day* 2009 should be even bigger and better.
- And there will be many more.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to all our success and enjoyment. Please continue "working to make cycling in Winnipeg a safe, enjoyable, accessible, and convenient transportation choice year-round" in 2009, while enjoying the benefits of our collective efforts.

Safety & Education Committee -- 2008 Annual Report

by Dave Elmore

There has been no change in the status of the Can-Bike Program or instructor training. The 5 Bike to the Future members who have completed all of the training required for certification still must write the exam. The time to organize this seems to have eluded both us and our instructor. It is intended to have this completed in time for spring. BttF will continue to work with MCA and the Provincial Government (through Howard Skrypnik) to look at revive the Can-Bike program in Winnipeg/Manitoba.

The final module of the 3 module course developed by Bike to the Future's Safety and Education Committee as an alternative to the full Can-Bike course will be delivered to between 3 and 6 participants on November 22nd. This module is based on bike maintenance and understanding your bike, so the cooler weather will not effect participation.

The first two modules, which are based on safe cycling & road positioning for both residential and multi-lane roadways, were previously delivered to between 3 and 5 participants. The feedback provided by participants would indicate that both the content and delivery were well received. That said, the coordination of times and dates as well as commitment from participants continues to be problematic. The course has been delivered at no charge to participants, and this appears to contribute to the lack of commitment.

Communications & Website Committee – 2008 Annual Report

by Ben Goldstein

The Communications & Website Committee has had a busy and successful second year. The portfolio for the committee is to support our members via our website (biketothefuture.org), and promote our efforts through media relations and merchandise. This report will be separated into those three fields:

Website

- Adopted new web design
- Facebook group now has 100 members
- Supported email address for those who wanted @biketothefuture.org
- Supported membership database
- Continual updates of website thanks to many volunteer hours put in by Kevin Miller
- Web traffic averages 300 distinct users a month

Media Relations

- Our news clippings of local cycling related news has tracked over 30 articles in the past year. In 11 of those, BttF or a BttF member was mentioned or quoted.
- Various radio and TV appearances
- Broadcast our Fall Forum live on CKUW

Merchandise

- BttF printed 200 high quality, made in Canada T-shirts, which are on sale. Currently over 50 shirts have sold, and we hope to sell-out over the next year.

Communications & Website Committee:

- Web team: Alain Foidart, Ken Gerrard, Bill Spornitz, Kevin Miller, David Wieser (Facebook Admin)
- Communications: Ron Brown and Kaj Hasselris

Thanks also to Jackie Avent and Kevin Miller for their many media appearances.

City Committee -- 2008 Annual Report

by Rob Cosco

We have had an interesting second year after expending the majority of our time and energy in our first year lobbying for the implementation of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) and corresponding funding. Our decision this year was to focus on providing support to the ATAC, which had an enormous amount of work to do in a very short period of time. Two of our committee members (Anders & Gareth) serve on the ATAC. Most of us joined in the various Google Groups which were instrumental in coming up with the initial layout & recommendations for cycling routes and corridor's throughout the city. This whole process took place much quicker than we would have liked, but it had to happen if we wanted to see some much needed "on street" progress.

A carryover project from year one was the "sharrows" work that we participated in with the City Planners and our Safety & Education Committee. We have mixed feelings about this process, as we did the majority of work both on the ground and research wise for the city, but many of our recommendations were essentially ignored. We felt that as a first step, the introduction of the sharrows would make a significant contribution to cyclists in the city. We were happy to see the city make this initial step, but very disappointed with their follow through. It appears that the city wanted to make a symbolic, political statement in introducing the sharrows, but very little though was given to the wisdom of the layout and any educational follow through. We view the sharrows as a temporary measure and do not see any particular value in further implementation unless transportation guidelines are followed more closely in combination with an education campaign for cyclists and motorists.

Next year our committee will require a new focus as City Council continues to show a modest interest in the development of cycling infrastructure.

Chair: Rob Cosco

Members: Mark Cohoe, Gord McGonical, Anders Swanson, Gareth Simons, Brion Dolenko, Tom Pearce.

The provincial committee was initially established in the fall of 2006. In 2007 our focus was to make the provincial government aware of our organization and goals and to ask for the development of a provincial cycling policy and related actions. In the process we met with the ministers of Intergovernmental Affairs, Healthy Living, and Infrastructure and Transportation.

The 2007 Bike to the Future forum produced recommendations to the provincial government, asking them to allocate funds to active transportation infrastructure, to update the Highway Traffic Act, to create a web-based map of cycling routes on Manitoba highways, along with recommendations to improve cyclist and driver education.

In the fall and winter of 2007-08 we prepared a provincial budget submission for Finance Minister Greg Selinger, and provided copies to Winnipeg MLAs, opposition leaders, and other relevant ministers. During the fall and winter we also participated in consultations on the Fort Garry Bridges rehabilitation project, and communicated our concerns about this project to the Minister of Transportation and others. The submission, *Cycling and the Future of Manitoba*, was a substantial document that included recommendations and background information.

In the spring we requested a presentation to the NDP caucus, which took place on March 20. At this meeting we made a joint presentation involving a number of individuals and organizational representatives. Our presentation was based on our budget submission, and emphasized the need for the province to allocate the equivalent of 5% of the highways and infrastructure budget to active transportation infrastructure, and the need for the province to incorporate a systematic process of reviewing all road and bridge construction projects from the standpoint of cycling and active transportation needs. We also called for the formation of a task force to provide for discussion and input on active transportation issues. (See attached meeting summary.)

In the spring the province released its policy document, *Beyond Kyoto*, which included a Transportation component. We were pleased to see that this document included plans for a provincial active transportation advisory group, continued support for active transportation pathways, support for other cycling infrastructure, and for educational initiatives, among others. In May we received a letter from Jim Rondeau, Minister responsible for Manitoba's climate change policies, indicating that we will be invited to have a representative on the provincial Active Transportation Advisory Committee when it is established. He also mentioned commitments to enhance active commuting infrastructure and safety, and improving public education on road safety for cyclists and drivers.

In August we had a provincial strategy meeting at which several possible actions were discussed, including preparing op-ed pieces for the Free Press, requesting another delegation to the NDP and opposition parties, and other actions. The general thrust of this meeting was to develop a media campaign and approach that would speak to a broad audience, and to document and communicate the chronic under-funding of cycling infrastructure and the need for new policies. The "Complete Streets" movement was identified as a good example which has been legislated by some state governments.

Provincial issues were again discussed at our 2008 forum, and the recommendations were similar to those from the previous years. The provincial discussion group developed recommendations for the province as well as recommendations for cycling advocates:

Province advocating cycling:

- MPI could retest licensed drivers to raise understanding of cyclists and educate drivers
- Provision of more consistent public education on safe cycling
- MB could give cities like Winnipeg funding for cycling endeavours, e.g. infrastructure grants, with specific designations as to how the money should be spent
 - The funding agreement would spell out the requirements for accepting the funding, e.g. on-street, segregated bike lanes, in order to ensure a quality end product
 - Information about the funding agreement would be available to the public to maintain transparency, so the public can ensure the funding is spent as designated

Advocating to the Province:

- Write to government strategically
 - Write to the correct Minister – check the Minister’s portfolio to make sure he/she is best able to respond
 - Send positive letters when government is doing something well
 - Write to a local MLA – if he/she is part of the Opposition, ask what his/her party is doing to influence the party in power
- Write letters that are polite, concise, and suggest valid solutions; focus on one topic, and do your research in advance
 - Develop good relationships with and influence civil servants
 - Change can sometimes happen from bottom-up rather than top-down
 - Insist on public inclusion in policy/law processes

Kerri Irvin-Ross, Minister of Healthy Living, was on the panel at the forum, and responded to questions and, we hope, gained a bit more understanding of our issues.

We are again planning to make a provincial budget submission, focusing on a couple of key actions, probably pushing for a 50/50 provincial/municipal cost-sharing program and perhaps for support for education. We will submit something before the end of November. One member, Mark Cohoe, also participated in the province’s budget consultation process and was able to raise the issue of cycling at this meeting, connecting it to issues of poverty.

We have also been trying to clarify the actual amount of provincial funding that is used for cycling infrastructure, and this is an issue that we plan to continue to raise with the province.

We are still expecting to make a presentation to the NDP and opposition parties, but have been told this can’t be scheduled until the new year. We have also created a provincial discussion forum, but this has not been very active to this point.

In short, there is a lot of work and lobbying to do at various levels, and we are plugging away at it as time permits. We have seen some signs of movement from the province, but still without any new funding initiatives or policies in place.

People who have participated in meetings include:

- Jackie Avent (Bike to the Future Co-chair)
- Ron Brown (Manitoba Cycling Association)
- Erin Carter (Sport Manitoba)
- Mark Cohoe (Bike to the Future Secretary),
- Jeremy Hull (Bike to the Future Provincial Committee Director)
- Janice Lukes (Winnipeg Trails Association)
- Ruth Schappert (Manitoba Cycling Association)
- Lisa Scharf (Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba)
- Gareth Simons (Bike to the Future / Active Transportation Advisory Committee)
- Roger Suss (Manitoba Medical Association)
- Anders Swanson (One Green City / Mayor’s Environment Committee / Active Transportation Advisory Committee)

Provincial Committee Mission Statement

The Provincial Committee seeks to promote policies and practices within the government of Manitoba that will support the development of cycling throughout the province, particularly policies that encourage and support everyday cycling within the city of Winnipeg. In order to do this the committee will educate itself about current policies and practices within Manitoba and in other jurisdictions, and engage in discussion with officials and representatives of the Manitoba government and the general public about how to improve provincial policies. The areas to be considered may include funding for construction and renovation of transportation infrastructure, agreements with municipal governments, the implications of the Highway Traffic Act, measures to promote the safety and education of cyclists, establishing provincial standards for bicycle facilities and equipment, research concerning cycling activity and trends, and other areas.



Income Statement - Mar 1 '07 to Mar 31 '08
Year-end Financial Statement

	Account	DB	CR		Net
Revenue					
	Donation	2,365.00		\$	2,365.00
	Membership	2,538.51		\$	2,538.51
	Interest	1.22		\$	1.22
					\$ 4,904.73
Expenses					
	Admin cost		593.99	\$	(593.99)
	Bank expense	174.34	179.42	\$	(5.08)
	Conference		30.00	\$	(30.00)
	Fall Forum	100.00	879.80	\$	(779.80)
	Printing		997.55	\$	(997.55)
					\$ (2,406.42)
Net earnings					\$ 2,498.31
Opening retained earnings					\$ -
Closing retained earnings					\$ 2,498.31
		\$ 5,179.07	\$ 2,680.76		