

Bike Winnipeg Business Meeting

April 14, 2015 – 6:00 to 7:45

Sport for Life Centre, 145 Pacific Ave

Minutes

Attending:

Directors: Ian Walker (meeting chair), Jeremy Hull (meeting secretary), Jackie Collett, Bill Newman (Treasurer), Guy Bonnetta, Zennon Gagne, Stéphane Dorge, Laura Donatelli, Charles Feaver

Staff: Mark Cohoe (Executive Director)

Guests: Shawn Defoort, Dustin Dilts

Regrets:

Directors: Kaye Grant, Tyler Markowski

Introductions & Welcome: Everyone introduced themselves. Shawn will become the Bike Valet manager once the contract is signed and finalized. Dustin has a particular interest in improving cycling on Main St. Zennon participated by telephone from California.

Agenda: Approved

Review of February and March minutes: February minutes were approved. March minutes were approved with one change (removal of reference to attached budget, which was not attached).

Motions Proposed by Executive and Membership Committees:

Four motions were proposed by the Executive Committee and one by the Membership/Fundraising Committee to be voted on at this meeting. One of the motions, approval of the budget, was not dealt with because the budget is still being finalized, pending feedback from the City of Winnipeg on our recent Cycling Map proposal. The other four were all passed, as follows:

Motion #1: Moved that contracts over \$2500 will require 2 signers who will each be one of the approved signers for cheques, that is a Co-chair, Treasurer and/or Executive Director. (Moved: Ian/Seconded: Zen, passed)

Motion #2: Moved that any expenditure up to \$500 can be authorized by the Executive Director as long as it's specifically identified in our approved budget and sufficient funds are available. Any expenditure of \$501 will require 2 signers who will each be one of the approved signers for cheques, that is a Co-chair, Treasurer and/or Executive Director. (Moved: Ian/Seconded: Zen, passed)

Motion #3: Moved to approve a \$20 annual membership fee to take effect for the 2015 year. Members will have voting rights and any other benefits that Bike Winnipeg is able to provide or negotiation from other organizations. (Moved: Ian/Seconded: Stéphane, passed)

There was some discussion of the mechanics required in support of this change, including modification of the web site membership page, provision of email receipts, and provision of a way for people to sign up at street festivals and other events, through use of a tear-off membership receipt. Once the web site is updated Mark will inform the board who will test it to make sure it works well. The Membership Committee is to work out details for membership forms and receipts.

Motion #4: Moved to accept Jeremy and Loren's recommendation to offer the Bike Valet Contract to Shawn Defoort. (Moved: Ian/Seconded: Laura, passed)

Executive Director's Report

CPR Rail Crossing Study

Three options for improved transportation across the CPR yards are being considered by the study team, although they are not finalized at this point. They are, a) providing a tunnel connection between McGregor and Sherbrook. This would

be for motor vehicles, possibly with a separate crossing for cyclists. b) rebuilding the Arlington Bridge, and upgrading McPhillips, and c) a 4 lane Arlington Bridge. The study team has not yet fully explained the three options and they are still in flux. The options affect streets from McPhillips to Main St, which also needs improvements. We should take advantage of the opportunity to influence the options and results. Mark suggests that we push for:

- Protected bike lanes on Main St.
- “One way couplets” – that is, parallel north-south streets, one going north and one going south.

Mark notes that the width of streets such as McGregor and Salter makes it hard to accommodate two-way traffic plus adequate bike lanes. Laura asked if the engineers are using “Transportation Demand Management” language or concepts, and Mark says they are not so far.

Downtown Bike Lanes – Demonstration Project

We need approval from the City to move forward on this project, which involves creating temporary separated bike lanes on Fort and/or Garry between Assiniboine Ave and Logan. We have not had a response yet on this from Kevin Nixon. There was some discussion of the options of a single two-way bike lane on one street, vs. two one-way bike lanes on the two streets.

William Clement Parkway Open House

Mark and Guy attended this, but there was not a lot of detail provided by the consultants – MMM.

Bike Map Proposal

We have not had a response from the City on our proposal. At this point we don’t know why this is being delayed.

Meeting with Molly McCracken

Mark met with Molly McCracken, Director of the Canadian Centre on Policy Alternatives whose office is on Main St. about the need to have bike lanes on Main St.

Winnipeg Folk Festival Ride

Mark has been approached by the Winnipeg Folk Festival about participating in some way in their group ride to the festival. Following some discussion Charles proposed that we ask the Folk Festival to do a photo essay on the ride and use it to encourage followers and likes on Facebook. It was also suggested that we have a display at the festival and hand out information/sign up members.

Financial Report (attached)

http://bikewinnipeg.ca/BW-files/fin/YTD_Var_2015_03.pdf

Membership/Fundraiser Report

Stéphane reported on several fundraising activities:

Canvassing Bike Shops

Good response from Bikes and Beyond as usual, although they are currently expanding and can’t offer financial support. However, they offered to help with printing of our pamphlet or brochure, and to give these to customers buying bikes. Met with Royal Sports – they focus mainly on BMXs. There was discussion of trying to get other bike shops to agree to distribute our information with bikes, and of the idea of getting stickers that can be attached to bike frames. These would need to promote and show support for Bike Winnipeg and encourage people to “like” us on Facebook.

T-shirts

There is a plan to get some sample Bike Winnipeg T-shirts produced and displayed at bike shops, where people could then place orders for later delivery. The cost of the samples including initial set up of silk screening would be about \$250. The shirts would be priced at \$20-\$25. There were concerns raised about the idea, including the delay between ordering and receiving the shirts, and the amount of effort going into the project vs. the pay-off. There was also discussion of timing and how it might work with Bike Week. Stéphane may develop the plan a bit and raise it again at a future meeting.

FMU Film Fundraiser, May 22

The FMU film featuring young people cycling in St. Boniface is to be used as a fundraiser and as a way of promoting development of cycling within St. Boniface. The film producer is willing to reduce his normal rental fee and Stéphane has spoken with a number of organizations in St. Boniface who are supportive. Admission will be \$20.

Education Report (see attached)

Jeremy gave a brief summary of Education Committee activities, including development of employer-based cycling courses. We plan to pursue the idea, and are also in discussions with MPI about the possibility of using the Cycling Champions program to support this type of training. This would mean the program costs would be covered by MPI. Initial discussions with MPI have been positive, but there are a lot of details to be worked out and it isn't clear that timing will work for this to happen this year.

Laura also reported on a meeting she attended with Bike Together Winnipeg. The consensus of organizers is that a more effective educational program is needed (currently training consists of a bike rodeo). They are planning to approach the Manitoba Cycling Association about establishing a program that takes into account the development of skills among children/youth over time.

Program for Membership Meeting, May 12

We have been planning to provide an interactive program that members will find interesting, and that will provide for their input, at our May meeting. We wanted the focus to be on our downtown bike lanes pilot project (see above) but we don't know the status of this. Therefore we decided to broaden the focus to allow for three short presentations on cycling improvement projects, of which the downtown bike lanes project could be one, Main St. improvements could be a second, and Stéphane's Provencher Ave. proposal might be another.

Dustin is interested in taking the lead on the Main St. topic. He has identified the need for better connections for Main St. cyclists and has developed a proposal on this (to be attached).

Upcoming Dates

- **“Where Do We Go From Here” – Winnipeg Trails Association** strategic planning session – everyone welcome - April 18, 11 AM – 3 PM, Norquay Community Centre - 65 Granville Street (Just North of the Disraeli Ped/Bike Bridge on the North Winnipeg Parkway). Lunch/refreshments provided. Here's a description:

Join us as we review our mandate and vision, review the impact of the City of Winnipeg's walking and cycling strategies, and talk about our shared priorities for the next year. When we are done chatting, those interested will be heading out to check out some emerging projects and priorities right nearby. So don't forget your shoes or bikes or skateboards

- Next Bike Winnipeg meeting: May 12, 5:30-6:30 (business meeting), 7:00-8:00 (membership meeting).

Bike Winnipeg Education Committee Report

April 12, 2015

The education committee (Jackie Collett, John Wilmot, Dave Elmore, Jeremy Hull, Mark Cohoe, Jim Falloon, Laura Donatelli) has been working on several issues:

1. Employer-sponsored cyclist classes

We are planning to organize 3 or more classes this spring-summer-fall, targeting larger downtown employers, based on last summer's Mb Hydro class. MPI has offered to put on the courses this year through their Cycling Champions program and we are exploring whether this will and timing issues. I am hoping to arrange a meeting on this with MPI soon. To this point they have indicated that they are very flexible and would like to work with us on this. In the mean time we working on a promotional package describing what we are offering.

I met with Beth McKechnie to discuss coordination of the course. Green Action Centre will help publicize the course, and we will also work with their "Go Happy" workplace consulting service to offer the commuter cycling course as part of their package of services to employers.

An outstanding issue is how to provide insurance for instructors if we are providing courses directly rather than through the City of Winnipeg or MPI. We need to look into costs and options.

Accessible Cyclist Education

Our long standing goal is to develop a better system for accessible cyclist courses in Manitoba. We have a funding proposal and at this point we need to meet with potential funders to try to get a pilot program going. I am to contact to prepare a letter for funders and circulate for comments

Transit Union Cycling/Bus Driver Education

We had a good meeting in February with the transit union. We expected to hear from them shortly afterwards, but haven't yet. Mark &/or Jim to follow up.

National Occupational Health and Safety Week launch, May 4

We are planning to participate in the launch on May 4 at the human rights museum. This is a good opportunity to network with people, and in particular to talk to potential employers about employer-based cyclist classes. We need one or two volunteers to help with this – it's a Monday morning.

Bike Together Winnipeg (BTW)

BTW is made up of several community groups, with WRHA quite involved. They receive funding from the Royal Bank and the City. Their focus is on providing bicycles and helmets to children, along with bicycle rodeo events that we believe are of limited value. We would like to see the focus shift to older children/teens. We see this as a possible proving ground for development of an appropriate cycling course for this age group.

CAA survey

At their invitation we contributed 3 questions to the CAA's bi-annual member survey. The results may be useful, and we see the questions as helping to raise awareness among motorists.

Winnipeg Folk Festival

Mark has been in contact with the folk festival director about BW providing support of some kind to their group rides to and from the festival site. We need to think about what we can most usefully do, and put our ideas forward to the WFF. These might include: providing handouts to cyclists, either those riding to the site, or on site help the WFF identify routes and connections Mark is to follow up with John Anderson.

Strike Bike

Jim reported that he met with Danny Shur who is eager to do two Strike Bike group tours again this year on Saturday, June 20. Each group to be about 25. We will need to provide ride marshals. Jim to follow up.

Jeremy