

February 27, 2017

Bike Fitchburg Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Matthew Jones; Bill Hauda; David Vogt; Roger Bass; Jennifer S. Ullman; Andy Jaw; Tony Hartmann; and Thad Schumacher.

Meeting began at 6:30 PM, led by Jennifer S. Ullman, Vice President & Co-Founder of Bike Fitchburg.

Meeting minutes were approved from January 2017. 1st Matt; 2nd Bill.

501c3: Matt began discussion of the 501c3 rules for the organization:

No need to file as 501c4, as we will not endorse candidates or lobby for, or against, them. There is a grey area b/n lobbying and education but the board is full of smart people who will know the difference.

Stroud Law Firm gave Gary and Matt particularly exact instructions on the articles, and filing... we should be assured that the group has been assisted well in this regard.

Bike Plan update: Tony stated that the sidewalks really became a side issue...started out as a positive element then biking got lumped into it with amended legislation that would incorporate restrictive language in a planning document. The work of the council is done and time to move on.

Pick me up at the border: 26 riders in 2016. Matt stated that Bike Fitchburg donation to Friends of the Badger Trail is indeed forthcoming. Let's try to double the number of riders in 2017 with 52. Matt and Thad picked a date of Oct. 6th at 11:58pm from the same starting place as last year.

Matt suggested we promote the event on Eventbrite and discontinue use of Active.com. We will not do a pre-registration but will hopefully be able to take some form of online donation, but not necessary to ride. David suggested that Fitchburg Cycles may be a sponsor at some level for the event? Board voted unanimously to approve going forward with **Pick me up at the Border 2017!**

Slow Roll/ Leopold to Library: Thad discussed a desire to do a ride for ALL levels of bikers to include people walking alongside their kids on training wheels, people on trikes, etc. We need to promote cycling and safety for ALL.

Matt said that he has been working with Library and Leopold folks...Must really have an event in the disadvantaged neighborhoods and make a commitment to that area for a stretch of time and NOT just a one-and-done kind of event. Bike Fitchburg is going to commit to riding with kids and parents in the area every other weekend over the summer months—more details are being hatched out. Andy stated that Dreambikes or Trek would be good to partner with. Board voted 3-1 in favor of continuing to plan for Leopold to Library

Social media/website makeover: David discussed that we will need to have a big hit to put the website in front of people that will visit our site repeatedly. Hosting responses from the two Fitchburg Mayoral Candidates is our first big hit. Social media/web committee will meet March 14th to organize website plan. We need to create an Electronic Fitchburg Town Hall!

Other Items: Have to know when to be silent, when to let it go. We need to know our positions on who, what, when... we need a legislative watch-body.

David: We must have an action Plan, which is what these meeting are for. We need to mobilize a few times per year on bike related items that affect safety and education.

Matt: stated he can comb TTC and City agendas once a month provided that all info is available in a timely manner on the City website.

David: we need to interact affectively with local gov't and public to develop strategies:

We need to have a Strategy: an Action Plan section on every agenda, and get on elected people and organizations agendas.

Bike counts: Tabled

Meeting Adjourned at 8 PM. 1st Matt; 2nd David