

Bike Fitchburg, Inc. Monthly Meeting Minutes
Monday, 2024-03-25, 7:00-8:30 pm
Fitchburg Senior Center



1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Welcome, Introductions – Darryl

Call to Order at 7:02pm
Attendees - Darryl, Steve, Bill, Carol, Kay, Mark
Guests - Mark Hamilton, Paula Romeo

2. Special Guests – None this month

3. Approval of Past Minutes: Feb 26, 2024

- a. Approval of past minutes: Feb 26, 2024
- b. Carol Aspinwall last name correction
- c. 5c - Small sub-committee to include Carol.
- d. Minutes **APPROVED** with above amendments (Move – Steve / 2nd – Darryl – All Voted Approval)

4. Treasurer’s Report – Steve

- a. Checking balance \$18,018.05, savings balance \$1802.59.
- b. Since our last meeting we paid \$50 each for Bicycle Friendly Business applications for Rutabaga Paddlesports and Chocolate Shoppe Ice Cream Co. We had sent a check for the BFB fee for Avante's Uptown Fitchburg apartment campus, but the Bike League lost the check. Since they closed their accounting year 2023, they just waived that fee.
- c. We earned another \$0.04 in interest.
- d. Other balances are unchanged: \$250 worth of inventory (dew rags, Bicycle Benefits and Bicycle Friendly America materials), and the checking account holds \$882.66 for the AARP grant for Greenway System signage and \$13,895.38 in the Kyle Stiegert memorial fund).
- e. Our net worth is now \$5342.60.
- f. We are coming into the period during which we pay our membership fees to the Chamber, the Bike Fed, and the Bike League. We will likely be paying \$50 BFB application fees for Summit Credit Union and Seminole Tap, but not Promega, before the next deadline of June 5. We are also looking at \$50 each for BFB award plaques for Avante, Chocolate Shoppe, and Rutabaga in the next month or so. Saris is a renewal and doesn't get a new plaque.

5. Goals and Work Plan for 2024

a. Volunteer Recruitment - Tony

- i. Request - please review the attached article & report back to Tony so that he can compile your quick n dirty takeaways/suggestions Before our mtg. (Don't spend more than 15 mins. on this task, plz) <https://donorbox.org/nonprofit-blog/how-to-attract-the-best-volunteers-and-keep-them>
- ii. Postponed till next meeting.

b. Greenway System / Update & Re-Ratify the [Bike/Ped Plan](#) - Steve

- i. Parks & Commissions Plan is out for committee review.
 1. The first Thursday in April is the deadline to send review changes to TTC. BF has created a small sub-committee to review language.
 2. TTC = Transportation and Transit Commission
 3. Steve to send documents out for review by the sub-committee.
- ii. Request: Look at OpenStreetMap and study the proposed dotted gray lines.
 1. [Open Street Map](#) review - conceptual proposal, but unable to complete since eminent domain is not available and landowners do not want to sell.
 2. The city needs to put plans in place for when land is in redevelopment that the multi-use paths get put into place. We want to be sure that bicycle facilities are part of the Healthy Neighborhood Initiative.
 3. Definition of Path and Trail as agreed upon by the state.
 - a. Trail is state and requires pass - Path is city and does not need a pass.

c. [Better-Connected Trail System](#) – Steve

- i. Based upon census blocks using the bicycle network analysis used by people for bikes.
- ii. Bicycle Network Analysis - Announce in June the new city ratings.
- iii. We recently dropped from 42 to 40 on a scale of 100 - Good news is expected rating is ~46.
- iv. Good biking score is ~50, so we are getting close to where we want to be.

d. [Bike Rodeos / Education & Outreach](#) – Mike / MarkW

- i. Bike Literature for Mike provided to Steve at Bike Aroma from the Bike Fed. Mark to arrange a delivery to Mike once he returns from vacation.
- ii. Teaching Safe Bicycling is a DOT Course for Free every spring. Here is the April and May [Teaching Safe Bicycling](#) (TSB) schedule. Mark W has signed up to attend. Others are encouraged to join.
 1. [Madison - Goodman Community Center - April 14](#)
 2. [Madison - Healthy Communities Summit - April 29](#)
 3. [Milwaukee - Lincoln Park Blatz Pavilion - May 4](#)
- iii. Volunteer Opportunity – Allied Neighborhood Bike Giveaway on Saturday, April 6th. 50 bikes to be given away. Mike and Mark W. have signed up to participate. Others are welcome.

6. Other Perpetual Topics

a. Fitchburg Bicycle Committee – Mark H

- i. RFD soon on Bile and Ped plan update - by June
- ii. The city asked to pause on Bike League discussion until this summer. This will not prevent us from continuing our Bicycle Friendly efforts for the June and September submission deadlines.

- iii. Discussion on sponsored related bike rides to be held next week.
 - 1. Chamber would like to see 3 rides - partly to replace [“Festival of Speed”](#). Tie to [“Bike the Burg”](#) Chamber led program.
 - 2. Brewery Ride / Sustainability Ride / Agriculture Ride / Cap city Trail for FREE / Thad’s Family Pharmacy ride
 - 3. Meeting next week.
 - 4. Mark H to send discussion draft to sub-committee.
 - 5. Mark sent Discussion Draft.

b. Policy & Public Works - Steve

- i. Signs for trails. TTC on federal funding for things city can submit for Big \$\$ was submitted to Ross by Steve. Looking for feedback from Ross on plans for the city to use these grants.

c. Social Media Update – Steve

Date	3/25/24	2/26/24	01/22/24	11/27/23	01/27/23
Facebook Forum members	634	629	627	615	562
Facebook page likes	639	633	631	622	562
Facebook page followers	723	717	712	700	618
E-mail addresses to add	0	0	0	0	200
E-mail list addresses	367	352	349	342	71
Instagram	300	298	290	288	240
Threads	47	43	40		

7. Old Business

a. Bike Fitchburg Board Member recruitment.

- i. Mark W updated roster – will sent to board for validation of information.
- ii. 1 director opening

b. [BLU Lights](#) in partnership with [Bike Lane Uprising](#) - Mark W.

- i. 100% toward goal of 200 donations
- ii. Met with Angela Kinderman (Fitchburg Chamber of Visitors & Business) to discuss distribution opportunities.
- iii. Angela in agreement to Bike Fitchburg general strategy. We will include Angela in the Light Distribution discussion.

BLU Lights (Continued)

iv. Next Steps

1. Hold Light Distribution Meeting. Target first week in April - need to coordinate with the venue for opening.
2. Attend the monthly BLU Lead Meeting

c. League Cycling Instructor Seminar (LCI) - in partnership with [The League of American Bicyclists](#)

d. Smart Cycling

- a. **2 people Registered - Registration closes on Friday, April 12, 2024**
- b. Darryl signed up which brings to total to 3.

e. LCI Seminar

- c. **4 people Registered - Registration closes on Friday, May 10, 2024**
- f. Mark to call Natalie (Bike Fed) and Amanda (Tri4) to encourage their folks to get signed up.
- g. Plan B - Mark W to attend Portage, MI seminar in late Sept. (Just in Case)
- d. Registration closes September 6, 2024

h. **Cycling Without Age - Mark W. & Darryl**

- i. In partnership with Cycling Without Age - Copenhagen and Wisconsin Bike Fed
- ii. Obtained official affiliation status with Cycling Without Age - Copenhagen on February 24
- iii. 1 month push due to new City Council members starting in April.
- iv. Next Steps >>
 1. Create presentation (85% complete) - review send target is 3/28 (Thurs)
 2. Committee input and ratification
 3. Bike Fitchburg Board ratification (via email)
 4. Present to Mayor and City Council - Next COW is April 24th.
 5. Begin Fund Raising - May target

i. **Bicycle Friendly Business Outreach - Steve & Mark H.**

- i. Steve and Mark H have emailed the current list of applicants.
- ii. Mark W to approach Flying Hound
- iii. June 5th deadline >> then Sept
- iv. If all current applicants are approved, then our total of 15 + 7 new might make it on the national leader's board which makes is favorable for Fitchburg Gold Status
- v. Idea to Add Julios and Me as a location.
- vi. Discussion on the corporate entities need to send request for bicycle friendly activities up the chain of command. The result is that few ever express interest.
- vii. The League Map includes the locations of all Bicycle Friendly businesses.
 1. [53711 Specific Link](#)
 2. [Wisconsin Specific Link](#)

8. Event reports and planning

Date	BF Contact	Event
April 6	Mike G	Allied Neighborhood Bike Giveaway Event at 12pm. Volunteers needed 11am to 2pm.
April 20	Mark W	Smart Cycling Class – The League Prerequisite for League Cycling Instructor Certification (LCI) Steve Arnold is class facilitator
April 27	Steve A	Celebrate Trails Day – Rails to Trails Conservancy Volunteer event, meet at Dawley Hub @9:30am. Event 10am-1pm Recreation Station. Yard signs and asphalt decals are put out in advance. Mike, Carol, Bill, Mark W volunteered.
April 23	Steve A	Proclamation for Bike Month (proclamation last Council the 4 th Tues in April) – Looking for BF Board to stand. Meeting at 7:30pm so be there at 7:15pm.
May 1	Steve A	Rides for Joe - Wed(s) 5/1, 6/5, 7/3, 8/7, 9/4, 10/2 By popular demand – Register once and then sign roster each ride you attend.
May - Sept	Steve A	Mad City Velo Monthly Rides From Seminole Tap – Wed nights (Details being worked)
May 1-31		May is Bike Month (proclamation last Council meeting in April) Steve wants to meet the mayor when BCycles come out and bike to work with the mayor
May 17	Steve A	National Bike to Work : event with the mayor
May 31-June 2	Mark A	LCI – League Cycling Instructor
June 1-June 9		Wisconsin Bike Week (Commuter Station Tues 6/4)
CANCELLED		Fitchburg Festival of Speed - Cancelled for 2024
Aug 16	Mike G	Fitchburg Community Night Out 5-8pm
Sept 20- Sept 21	Steve A	!Pick Me Up at the Border! Need a race director and location to start the event. Recommendation of McKee Park to start.
Dec 14	Mike G	Madison Santa Rampage

NOTE – Many Event Titles are linked to the related websites.

9. **New Business** – None for this month

10. **Adjournment** – 8:22pm

Next Meeting >> April 22 – Fitchburg Senior Center