

Final

Minutes of the September 4, 2018 Meeting  
of the  
Board of Directors  
of the  
New York Cycle Club

Present were: Jerry Ross (VP Rides), Eden Weiss (VP Programs), Bob Gilbert (Treasurer), James Gilbert (Membership Coordinator), Michael Weitzman (ENY Director), Jennifer Betras (Special Events Coordinator), Gil Lavi (Content Editor), Michael Gately (A Rides Coordinator), Michael Roth (B Rides Coordinator), Julie Blackburn (C Rides Coordinator), and Peter Storey (Secretary).

Jerry, as presiding officer, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**1. Approval of July Minutes.**

On motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the July meeting were **approved**.

**2. Programs.**

The September Meeting will feature Polly Trottenberg, New York City's Transportation Commissioner. The law firm of Lucarelli and Castaldi will sponsor the meeting. The grand prize for the raffle will be a folding bicycle.

The October meeting will feature Ben Serotta, noted framebuilder and entrepreneur. The meeting will be sponsored by Santini.

**3. ENY.**

Mike Weitzman reported that ENY is closing in on 1,100 riders and revenues of just under \$100,000. These figures are effectively twice last year's figures. The event continues to need more volunteers. Mike again expressed particular thanks to Gil for his outstanding work on the event.

**4. Treasurer's Report.**

Bob noted that our cash balances are now up to \$189,000. He cautioned that that figure includes significant ENY receipts, with significant ENY expenses yet to come in.

That said, we can afford to spend more than we have been on Club activities. The Holiday Party would be one place to start.

**5. A Rides.**

Michael Gately reported that the time for Fall Foliage Rides is approaching, and that we need a coordinator for that series. Both James and Jennifer offered to help out, but Michael will still

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approach the A leaders in search of an overall coordinator.

6. ***Recent Court Decision (Cont'd).***

Jerry noted that the plaintiff in the action referred to in last month's minutes has filed a Notice of Appeal. Again, the Club itself is not a party to this action, although we have some interest in the outcome.

7. ***Website Matters.***

Gil brought us up to date on progress towards the new website. Apparently there are security weaknesses in some of the software we are using and portions of the intended previous update may not have been tested. We will discontinue use of the Drupal membership system and will switch that to WordPress as soon as we can. We will, however, continue to rely on the current Drupal-based ride system until we can focus on an off-the-shelf solution and what that would entail.

8. ***Elections.***

Jerry asked for final commitments by those Board members planning to run again this Fall. It appears that there will be vacancies for President, VP Programs and Webmaster. Peter was asked if he would consider running for President and said he would consider it. That would create a vacancy in the Secretary position. Nominations will open shortly.

9. ***New Club Jersey.***

Discussion then turned to the subject of a new Club jersey. It was suggested that Alex Ostroy (who designed this year's Escape New York jersey and related kit) be commissioned to design it, foregoing the design competition that we have sometimes held in the past to arrive at a new design. Because he is in the business of designing, producing and marketing cycling jerseys, it was felt that Alex could also provide "one-stop shopping". Eventually, the discussion was tabled in Gabby's absence and before any decisions were made.

10. ***Waiver and Release.***

Jerry initiated a discussion of certain changes to the Club's Release And Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Indemnity Agreement (the "***Waiver***") that he believes would be appropriate. The concern is that the current document could be read to release from liability municipalities and other public entities that own the roads we ride on. Peter raised some other places that the Waiver might be tweaked to avoid inadvertent releases of potentially liable parties. It was agreed that this subject would benefit from more study, and the matter was tabled.

11. ***\$1 Trial Membership.***

Discussion of a proposal to end this program was tabled, pending greater analysis of the available data.

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12. ***Social Rides.***

These are rides that are aimed at non-members (or not-yet-members). The issue is how and when do we get them to sign the Waiver that is required of all members and is a precondition to participating in rides. Gil suggested that if the sign-ups for these rides were handled through Event-brite (much like ENY sign-ups), agreement to the Waiver would be part of the process. Use of Event-brite in this context would be free. Julie agreed to confer with Gil on how best to do this.

13. ***Message Board.***

The Board returned to the question of rude behavior and inappropriate postings on the Message Board. The Board's perception is that the actions of a small number of users makes the Message Board experience unpleasant for the rest of us and has, in fact, driven away some new members. There was discussion of suspension of certain members' posting privileges coupled with more aggressive moderating, but no decisions were taken.

The Meeting then adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter K. Storey, Secretary