

General Meeting Comox Valley Cycling Coalition

Thursday June 23, 2011

Present: Ed Schum, Marg Harris, Brian Schoneberg, Terry Dekker, Tyler Johns, Krista Kaptein, Wendy Prothero

Meeting called to order

Addition to agenda

Minutes accepted

Treasurer's Report

- Krista submitted the financial support.
- Discussion held re: membership fees
- It was noted that the Municipal challenge plaque purchased by Ed came in under budget.

Pins

- Ed will inquire about ordering more pins,
- *Ed moved seconded by Brian that Ed order up to 1000 pins. Discussion held. Motion passed*
- Ed to order pins.

Education:

- James intends to speak to schools, but the end of the school year is not a good time to approach them.
- Ed will meet, on July 15, with the organizers of Rexpo, held on the base in September.
- Ed would like to have an ongoing program of commuter skills courses, with registration done through the recreation centres in Comox and Courtenay. A full course is six (6) participants and a course is run when it fills. One qualified volunteer would have to be available to facilitate the course. Feedback from previous courses has been very positive. Suggestion was made to tailor the course to "cycling in my community". Ed will register the course with city of Courtenay in the fall.
- Discussion was held re presentations about the coalition to the Newcomers Club. Marg will contact the club in the fall.

Technical committee

- Fitzgerald Ave – On the city of Courtenay website it was noted that the plans for Fitzgerald Avenue have been sent back to the engineers for re thinking. Ed to Contact them and find out more.
- Richard Drudl, a well known international engineer is also slated to come in the near future to assist the city engineers in designing a cycle friendly street..
- Ed has been advised that the road engineers are rethinking the current configuration of Ryan Road near Costco, with the intent of making it safer for cyclists as the previously existing cycling lane was eliminated.
- The Thrifty's grocery store project may have been vapproved for 3 entrances – 2 on Lerwick and one on Ryan Road.
- The proposed Gas and Go development has promised a cycling lane. Construction on this project is to begin immediately.

CV Cycle food Tour

- Tyler acknowledged that Willy van Kemenade has spearheaded this project and involved community partners. Tyler will be primarily involved in the logistics for the actual day, including signage, volunteers etc.

- The Coalition members will be asked to provide volunteer help on the day and Tyler thinks approx 30 volunteers will be required.
- There are approx. 20 farmers now involved and the itinerary loops have been completed. One is 50k with registration for it located at Royston Rec Bayside Loop. The remaining two loops begin at the farmers' market on Headquarters Road. One is 18k and has been dubbed the Family ramble, while the other is a 60k loop which makes its way up Coleman Road.
- The website has been built by the Economic development society's graphic designer. The Logo for the tour will be present at each of the participating farms and a program has been designed outlining what each farm has to offer.
- The Registration fee is \$10 per person with a max \$20 per family and no charge for children under 15. Participants are encouraged to go online to [CVfarmcycletour](#), where they can register and pay registration. They can register on the day of the event at the farmer's market.
- The Broken Spoke will be selling and installing panniers, and Island Joy Ride (Campbell River) will bring bikes to rent.
- The participants will have a staggered start between 9 – 12 and the finish should be 4 pm.
- Insurance will not provided for the event.
- Tyler still working on the logistics of the actual registration because that will demand volunteer participation. He would also like to have pins available for sale.

Penalosa visit

- Overall, the event went well and generated enormous excitement. Sadly, not as many of our leaders and politicians attended the session as we would like.
- Penalosa costs amounted to 656.83, well under the budget allowed of \$1200.00.
- To continue the momentum of the event, we need to continue to demonstrate to politicians and key bureaucrats that there is a general desire in the community to have the valley remain "livable" by encouraging more cycling.
- Letters to the editor of the papers and local politicians, support for the potential upcoming 'cyclovia', "crusade" groups which would entail cyclists from several areas in the valley riding to a public venue, such as Simms park, and holding a presentation there.
- Ed noted that Europe's change to its current cycling culture came about because of demands from the population only 40 years ago. He noted that we need to be visible and show that we want improvements and lobby the provincial government for funds to improve cycling infrastructure through letters to politicians including the premier citing health and transportation issues and green house gas emissions. Every dollar we invest in getting people mobile saves health care dollars
- Several suggestions were made including publicizing that all our local municipalities signed on as partners for climate protections in 2006/08 and have not achieved one milestone yet. Partners for Climate protection on federation of Canadian municipalities
- Wendy will gather information and work with Krista on the climate change issue to create an article for the newspaper
- Marg will organize a meeting to discuss Climate action charter.

Correspondence

- A letter in paper from Mel McLachlan about the "8 to 80" proposal made by Penalosa at his presentation.
- A letter from Linda Fyfe, environmentalist was read. It is being be sent to the editors of the papers.

On Line registration for the CV Cycling Coalition

- This remains a good idea that Brian can institute easily.
- *Krista moved seconded by Marg that we institute on line registration.*
- **Brian will work with Sue Fabrizio to implement it.**

Bike lock up rack costs

- The cost of material purchased by James to create the bike lock up racks was over budget.
- *Ed moved, seconded by Brian, to pay the overrun for the materials needed for the bike lock up racks. Discussion held. Motion passed.*

Chip seal evaluation ride

- Ed will be organizing a Chip seal evaluation ride on Hornby Island on the July 9 weekend

Discussions

- How to engage new members and make them feel welcome.
- Reconnaissance rides

Parade Entry

- The coalition is registered for the Canada Day Parade, July 1st in Courtenay.
- Tyler has contacted some families and friends
- **Marg to email the membership re participation.**

Cyclovia

- Andrew Gower, an environmental planner is organizing a Cyclovia. He plans to have loops, 8 km through west Courtenay and 5 km in Comox closed to motorized traffic with cyclists riding at one time to demonstrate the large number of cyclists in the Valley. Anyone interested in participating in this event can meet and get more information at 8 am on this Saturday, June 25th at the Freakin café on Rosewall Cres in tin. He will be looking for support from local government as well as the community.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be at the Comox Recreation Centre at 7 pm. on July 21/11.

Meeting was adjourned at 9 pm