

Comox Valley Cycling Coalition Monthly Meeting

Thursday January 27, 2011

Present:

Ed Schum	Raymond Tait	Bruce Bauman
Wilf Dreher	Tyler Johns	Margaret Harris
Brian Schoneberg	Jan Gemmell	Chris Bowman
Frank Hovenden	Krista Kaptein	Mike Gruber
Willy Van Kemenade	Terry Dekker	Denis Kabush

- 1. Minutes from the previous meeting** were read. Wilf moved, seconded by Marg that the minutes be accepted as written. Motion Passed.
- 2. Matters arising from previous minutes:**
 - **Traffic** – the issues around the 17th street bridge will be taken to the cycling task force. We have been told that it may take 4 years to “fix.” The CVCCo will continue to put on pressure regarding this issue.
 - **Traffic** – the traffic survey was done well. Kudos to all the volunteers who participated. Wilf noted that the count should be done over the course of a week for more accuracy. He also suggested that when done yearly it could be very valuable.
 - **Chip Seal project evaluation** – the 26 responses are not enough to do anything with. We will ask riders to evaluate the changes again when the weather is better and also have an evaluation done by our own technical committee.
 - **Education** – CanBike Course – Ed is following up his enquiry to Gavin MacPhail to find out if we can hold a CanBike2 course in the Spring..
 - **Motor Vehicle Act** – we will be forming a small committee to assess the act and determine what changes and/or additions are needed. James Taylor is currently looking into it and Raymond Tait is interested in assisting. The BCCCo is also assessing the act.
 - **Cycle Ramp on Stairs to underpass, 5th St. bridge** – It was noted that the angle iron the bike is to roll on is situated too close to the railing to allow easy use. It was suggested that members send an email to mayor Greg Phelps asking him that improvements be made. His email is gphelps@courtenay.ca An example of a well-done ramp in Russia was shown to the attendees.
 - **Website – Group Space** – discussion of this was tabled for the AGM. It was suggested that it is a good idea but Jan would like the incoming membership secretary to decide if the arrangement would work for him or her.
- 3. Technical**
 - Fitzgerald project – Coalition members have met with the environmental planners and several city engineers. The engineers are scheduled to do a presentation to city council on Feb. 14, 4:00 PM where they will give council four different options to choose from. These options range from cycling lanes separated by white lines from parked cars to physically separate bike paths with no parking at all. It will be interesting to see the reaction by council. This will be the first real test to find out if council is willing to make the changes needed to promote cycling in a big way. It is good to have coalition members present.
 - Amendment to the official community plan –intends to reduce greenhouse gases by 20% from 2007 levels by the year 2020. Wilf and Ed have met with the planners to encourage them in this goal by promoting the creation of safer cycling routes in order

to increase the cycling mode share, as transportation is responsible for 66% of greenhouse gases. Courtenay needs the political will to make a strategic statement to reduce these greenhouse gases, to institute a plan and create policies to address the increasing number of cars that is forecasted over the next 10 years. CVCCo has submitted a plan and we would like to see them adopt it and approach senior government officials for support and funding. Although there is progress being made and we have seen positive changes in the council and on the staff we need to keep the pressure on and prove that the majority of the population supports a goal of “clean air” and that cycling can make a difference. It is also our goal to have coalition members running in the next municipal election.

4. **Education** – Ed reported that Robb Road School has thank you letters for all the volunteer instructors who participated in the Bicycle Rodeo in the fall.
 - Valerie Sheriff, a teacher at Huband School and Coalition member, has requested help from the Coalition to take a grad 4 – 7 students on a bicycle outing in the afternoon of February 17th.
5. **Media** – nil
6. **Social/Special Events**
 - a. Discussion was held as to the feasibility of joining with Terry Francis’ group to organize social cycle outings.
 - b. Jessie Ashwell would like to organize a Bicycle Festival this year
 - c. Willie Van Kemenade and Tyler Johns will meet with farm producers with the intent of assessing whether an organized cycle outing to visit farms and purchase produce is viable.
 - d. Marg Harris is interested in a Winery Tour.
 - e. Both events c & d will be introduced at the AGM.
7. **Treasurer** – Krista presented the financial committee’s report. We currently have a balance of \$4600 and Krista believes that we would have \$1000 left over from the budget to cover the costs of any event we would like to hold.
8. **Media** – Kudos to Krista for the great articles in the Record Newspaper.
9. **AGM** – Will be held on Saturday February 26, 2011 at the Seniors Lounge in the Florence Filberg centre. Discussion was held regarding a speaker.
 - Marg will MC.
 - Denis & Peggy Kabush will organize the refreshments and it will be publicized 15 days in advance of the event.
 - James Taylor will be crafting a list of the successes of 2010 and Committee chairs will send emails to Ed with their successes.
 - Door Prizes – Terry moved, seconded by Ed that we approach 6 bike shops to solicit prizes for the AGM contributing \$50 per shop for the prizes. Brian and Ed will approach the local bike shops to solicit prizes.
10. **Membership** – Brian moved, seconded by Chris Bowman to establish the following membership fee schedule:
 - Individuals \$20
 - Families 25

- Student/low income 10
Discussion held. Motion passed.

- Brian will develop a binder system to be left at the valley bike shops, which could hold membership forms and possibly membership fees if submitted.

Other Business –

- Outreach – discussion regarding the creation of a newsletter sent both as hard copy and email attachment. Ideas were well received but require members able and willing to put in the time.
- BC Cycling Coalition (BCCC) – Ed reported on their AGM. They are re writing their terms of reference. We are currently members and get good insurance rates through them. Their focus has been to encourage the creation of local coalitions and chapters of the BCCC. At this time Cowichan, Parksville/Qualicum, Campbell River, Langley and Prince George are in the process of forming cycling advocacy groups..
- Lapel Pins – discussion regarding the purchase of pins. Ed moved, seconded by Frank Hovenden to purchase pins for future use up to a maximum value of \$100. Motion passed.
- Cycling Map – Mike & Tomiko Collins of the Broken Spoke are promoting the creation of a Comox Valley cycling map. Marg will assess whether our questions can be answered and Frank moved, seconded by Chris, that we agree in principle to have the CVCo purchase advertisement space subject to the response to our question. Motion Passed. Marg will email the executive with the responses and they will make the final decision.
 - Questions: 1. How many copies will be in the first printing? ; 2. How will they be distributed?; 3. Will all bike shops have equal access to advertisement on the map and distribution of it? 4. Will the \$200 cost to advertise carry on in perpetuity or will there be an additional cost with each printing.
- Denis moved to adjourn the meeting at 9 pm.