

COMOX VALLEY CYCLING COALITION

Monthly Cycling Coalition Meeting
Monday, May 27th, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
Comox Recreation Centre

AGENDA

PRESENT: Marg Harris, James Taylor, Ed Schum, Terry Dekker, Sue Fabrizio, Chris Bowman, Julia Painchaud, Marilyn Holm, Diane Sadowski,

Call to Order

Approval of Agenda

Acceptance of Minutes from March 25th and April 22nd. Motion made and passed to accept the two sets of meeting minutes.

REPORTS

1. **Financial Report** – Julia Painchaud (Treasurer) presented the financial report. The Coalition will make a donation to Creekside Commons of \$20 for use of the room for the Cycling Skills Course held there. Julia will make out the cheques.
2. **Membership Report** – Sue Fabrizio (Membership Secretary) reported that we currently have 122 members and she expects that, as in past years, we will acquire new members at the Filberg Festival. Discussion re membership list accessibility disclosed that it is currently available to the executive via DropBox.
 - Chris has received a suggestion from one of the bicycle shops that we arrange to have a \$20 membership to the CVCCo or the cost of a bicycle safety course included with the purchase of each new bicycle. All bicycle shops need to be approached to determine if they would like to participate and paperwork needs to be organized and available to them. Hope is to acquire new members.
 - Chris moved that we have a reduced membership through Bicycle shops with the new purchase of a bicycle. Julia seconded. After discussion the motion was amended to read “Committee of Marg Sue & Chris will investigate the feasibility of bike shops offering memberships with the purchase of a new bicycle.”
 - Motion passed.
3. **Technical Committee Report** – Wilf Dreher (Tech Committee Chair) In Wilf’s absence Ed commented on Transportation Master Plan (TMP). He has spoken to the engineers who are consulting on TMP. They indicate that they are getting mixed messages and as a result have concerns that the focus of the plan will be on improvements for cars rather than on enhancing conditions for walking, cycling and public transport in order to reduce the number of cars that will be on our roads within the next 10 years. On a positive note, the Stakeholders meeting indicated that there is an understanding that a Master plan must focus on making complete streets not just improve on bridges and crossings. Additionally, the Firm hired to do the

consulting has remarked to council that the survey response is a remarkably large one. In spite of this, Courtenay City council is very resistant to any approach that is not car-centred.

- It was noted that now is a good time to get a survey out to the membership and encourage all of our supporters to forward them on to everyone they know.
- It would be helpful for respondents to complete the survey and ask for improvements for cycling. The Survey is available on the City of Courtenay website. 511 respondents have completed the survey at this point and we need to increase that number.
- This is a valley wide issue but especially important for Courtenay residents to respond in order to influence the Courtenay City council.
- Surveys need to be completed by June 7.
- Since there will only be a small notice in the newspaper, it was decided that we will forward the surveys to all our membership, utilize our personal links with other organizations to get additional responses and forward the information to former members.
- Ed has a mailing list for previous members so he can contact them.
- James will contact Ed to discuss how to do this.

4. **Community Public Advisory Committee (CPAC) roles/composition** - Marg reported on the recent meeting of the working group created for assessment of the committee. As noted in the current terms of reference CPAC a subcommittee of Cycling Task force which is comprised of elected officials from all Comox Valley jurisdictions responsible for feedback from the general public.

- The working group will be having another meeting tomorrow, has proposed changes to the terms of reference and believe that it is imperative that the HASTE program be instituted ASAP and that a coordinator be hired.
- The working group also believes that another major survey be done re: cycling issues in the community and they will call another meeting of task force in the near future.

5. **Intersection of 5th street and Menzies Rd** – This coming Wednesday at 3 pm a public meeting has been called to view the changes to this intersection. It will be held at the Railway station.

6. **Cycling for Life** – Chris Bowman/Angela Dawson/Ed - The New Horizons Grant program has ended but our cycling skills courses/school rodeos will continue in June with rodeos at Robb Road Royston Elementary and the Francophone school schools and both a CanBike 1 and a CanBike 2 course for adults. The volunteer positions for these are filled. It was noted that the cost for courses will be:

- Urban cycling \$40
- CanBike 1 \$ 60
- CanBike 2 \$90
- All of the above courses include a \$20 membership to the CVCC0.
- The point of charging is to allow us to continue school rodeos although we continue to seek additional funding sources.

7. **“The Bridge” – update** – Ed Schum updated newcomers at the meeting, that this is a proposed bridge at foot of 6th street designed for pedestrians and cyclists which would provide an east west connection to a path running behind superstore to provide safe access for all cyclists.

- A feasibility study commissioned by the city supports the idea.
- A complete set of plans and design and cost estimates are needed. \$20,000 has been raised through Founding Members donations to cover the cost of the next phase.
- Once the plans and cost estimates are completed we can go solicit public donations for expenses such as excavation, lumber donations and transportation of timber.
- A large public forum announcing the political support for the bridge will be organized. A link will be made available to the Golden bridge project, which has been successful.

8. **Farm Cycle Tour-** Tyler Johns reported that this is the 3rd year of the Farm Cycle Tour. It has grown to include a route going up headquarters road as far as the Coastal Black winery and a Sunday a loop through Royston.

- The tour had 200 folks participating in the first year, 300 in the second year, with increased marketing there is an expectation that those numbers will double.
- It will be held on August 10th & 11th and is being promoted through existing cycling groups here and in Campbell River, Nanaimo, Oregon, San Francisco.
- Planning meetings have indicated that many farmers who participated in the past would like to continue. Marketing has increased with on line invitations going out to past participants.
- The Family friendly routes vary from 40 to 60 km., children under 15 are free and we are working to have picnic items for sale en route.
- Willy has put together packages with local hotels and is utilizing their marketing networks as well.
- We will again need at least 40 volunteers, some on Friday evening and the rest at Farmer’s market working from 9 – 11 am.
- All volunteers can participate free of charge.
- James will send the Tour information to his contact at the school board.
- It was suggested that we have equipment that could possibly be loaned out but no decision was made on this.

NEW BUSINESS

9. **Right to Bike** – Chris and Ed - Right to bike is an initiative by BCCCo to standardize and certify courses for the education of cyclists. The goal is to treat bicycling as a basic life skill like swimming, and have all children taught to bicycle safely.

- We will be demonstrating courses designed for rural area and we have to be certified to do this.
- The BCCCo is attempting to secure funding to assist us in this.
- Chris is currently waiting to hear about a Provincial funding application that has been submitted on our behalf.

10. **Rexpo** done 2 years in a row, has had disappointing turnout. For doing it they invited participants to volunteer appreciation. Adult Wild Wild West luncheon. Wed June 5 and we are doing a rodeo it in morning and may be unable to come.

11. **Communication for Board Members** – James (Calendars) (Access to Group Space) James put information on Dropbox for authorized members and since he is still experiencing difficulty in accessing the existing calendar and has initiated a new one and will be filling in information on it.

12. **Display Unit & What's New in e Media** – James brought the display unit to show the membership.

13. **Rotary Request for 20 min. Presentation** - James will be making a powerpoint presentation to the Sunrise Rotary the theme of which will be HASTE and the Comox Valley & Car use. He will put the presentation into Dropbox for everyone to view and would be delighted if anyone is interested in accompanying him for the presentation or feels that s/he would like to make the presentation him/herself .

14. **Medicine Shop Ride, May 8th** – Marg was invited to the first ride of year. She spoke to 60 riders about the CVCCoalition and the cycling courses that we are holding.

- Feedback about the courses was also given to the group by riders who had taken a course.
- Marg is wondering if it would be advantageous for us to speak to this group every 2 or 3 rides to address safety issues or upcoming events such as the farm cycle tour.
- It would be beneficial to have this group completing the transportation survey.
- The rides are held on Wednesday evenings and participants meet behind the cenotaph in Comox at 6:45 pm.

OTHER BUSINESS

15. **Bike To Work Week**

- James noted that the Mayor of Courtenay, Larry Jangula has an invitation to cycle with James during Bike to Work week but has not put in an appearance.
- Ed is again organizing a Bike to the Playground event on Wednesday at 9:45 am. to coincide with Bike to Work week and is getting assistance from Rick, Judy & the Howells. Preschoolers can decorate their bikes & ride from the Simms park to Lewis Park playground where they get cookies, ribbons
- Ed has noted in the past that more than 50% of bike to work week participants do not register and many indicate that the process is too complex. In order to capture these folks in the statistics for the event, he is sending emails encouraging people to register or forward the number of Km they do during the week to him and he will register at a bike to work site.

16. **The YANA ride** is alive and well and being organized by Simon's Cycle. It will be held on either September 8th or 15th.

17. The **Air Show** is officially set for August 17th.
- We have already met with the organizers and been shown the site for bike parking.
 - A bike lane will be created prior to the event and no cars will be allowed.
 - We will be needing volunteers for this event.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, June 24th, 2013

ADJOURNMENT