

COMOX VALLEY CYCLING COALITION - MONTHLY MEETING

Thursday, Oct 27, 2022 7:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

Minutes

Board Members: Chris Bowman, Lawrence Vea, Brian Schoneberg, Jude Loukras., Mike Keohane, Grant Watson, Spencer Cappallo

Guests: Marg Harris (Education Ctte)

1. **Call to Order 7:03**
2. **Welcome and Introductions**
3. **Additional Agenda Items**
4. **Approval of Prior Minutes** (moved by Lawrence/Spencer)
5. **Business:**
 - **Financial Report / Grants– Jude**
 - Update on finances. Statement only until end of Sept, we have received \$6000 from SD71 and \$2000 from CVRD grant (mapping) in Oct.
 - Jude will write another BCCC grant application if we decide to go ahead for 2023. We just need to decide what projects we want to fund.
 - CVRD Grant - \$2000 (received in Oct)
 - **Membership Report - Brian**
 - Update 126 members, 210 on email list
 - Book Filberg for tentative AGM date (Mike will look at dates and get something booked)
 - **Social Media/Blog/ Website**
 - Update on FB and website - 40 people clicked thru onto website with recent article. Total of 389 clicks on FB (way up), 1 Share (by Mayor Wells)
 - Final report from social media consultant (re: BCCC Grant) – Jude has shared this. We want to continue to maintain and build our social media presence.
 - Suggest posting 2-3 times per week, original posts get better circulation
 - Grant has offered to help with FB posts and Jude will get him admin access
 - **Education Committee Report**
 - Adult Courses- Marg provided an excellent update and summary of the past year as well as some insight into next year.
 - 41 students have taken Ride Right in past 12 months (including SD71 Pro D Day and one individual that was provided one/one lessons)
 - Marg and Angela have been doing the vast majority of instruction, Nancy/Dylan/Christine willing but are finding it challenging to balance with work.
 - We will need more instructors to continue and grow – younger retirees? Training of instructors based in Victoria (Hub) – we should talk to them and BCCC (Jude will contact Hub). Campbell River Rec also interested in a similar program.
 - Need one sweep per four students (volunteers are fine), they do not need instructor training.
 - Should lengthen practical portion to 2.5 hrs if theory is on line. Revisit option for in person instruction (vs video), would be advantageous to get some cheap/free space.
 - Likely need to split theory and practical due to length if we go back to in person instruction.

- More Sat/Sun or evening courses (target those working M-F)? Planned course dates may get better response and commitment ahead of time.
 - School Cycling Program – Fall 2022
 - Over 350 kids in three-week program at Robb Road, Cumberland and Puntledge
 - Spring SCP will be at Arden, Miracle Beach, Royston and Valley View. Have been 2 days each historically but VV may be 3 now due to higher enrollment?
 - Big kudos from BCCC for our grass roots program, they would like it if we can provide a short blog/vlog on the program and info to help other smaller jurisdictions on getting similar up and running. Need someone to help with this.
 - Chris will check on trailer to winterize. Plan to do maintenance day again in spring, hopefully with help of Gary Olenik again.
 - I have connected CV Brain Injury Society, SD71, Santa's workshop (Garry) to see if there are any synergies in getting helmets to kids in need.
- **Events/Promotion**
 - Bike Rack Discussion – Brian
 - Request to add Comox Nautical Days to our bike rack schedule. This will be difficult as it coincides with same weekend as Filberg so we would need to buy more racks and look at expanding volunteers if we want to man it. Also some concerns as to where racks would be placed as park is very busy (perhaps use part of parking lot)?
 - Everyone in agreement that we want to support having bike racks as they encourage folks to ride to events.
 - Discussion – do we move to more of a “rental” process with bike racks? We come set them up and take them down but the renter is responsible for running them? Some of our users are non-profit (YANA) and we could look at donating them for those.
 - Brian estimated we have racks for 250 bikes currently. To add more racks (another 100 bikes) would cost about \$700 for connectors and \$300 for tubing (\$1000 total). We have \$700 CVRD grant money left to buy racks.
 - Bike Valet on lower mainland charges \$400 per event for Bike Valet, \$17-21 per hour for attendants.
 - Rental option needs to consider Insurance coverage and a rental contract needs to be developed (pass along liability to renter for theft or damage).
 - It would be challenging to get a volunteer base to help at other events similar to Filberg. We get people to help at Filberg in exchange for a pass. Doesn't work for most other events.
 - We need to generate a policy regarding providing bike racks, either at a cost or donation and how do we manage it.
 - Brian will get back to Nautical Days with questions – location, number of bikes expected, etc and bring a recommendation.
 - Group was asked if we should host or facilitate gatherings on issues such as infrastructure, safety, rules of the road, perhaps an e-bike event? Mike asked for any Ideas to be submitted and we can work on the ones we think will be supported
 - We could use spring GoByBike week to get out and promote ourselves. Set up a tent and hand out some Tim's coffee or donuts?
 - Other ideas for promoting our group and mission? E-bike fair was very well attended in 2019.

- **Infrastructure**

- Cumberland – interested in connections to Courtenay and reducing speed limits. Plan to cross creek with bridge to get to Whites Bay beach (ped and bikes only)?
- Comox – sent email to Mayor Nicole Minions to let them know who we are and offer any assistance regarding infrastructure, etc. Nice reply and she is supportive of AT.
- Courtenay – Cycling network update underway. Likely to council this fall?
 - Lerwick/Ryan does not have a plan but they realize it is a major issue.
 - Working with NIC and trying to make contact at CV Hospital
 - Need better connectivity in general to institutions and shopping centers, including within the parking lots and secure bike parking
 - Plan seems oriented to West Courtenay due to topographical issues (steep ridge in E Courtenay) and possible political hot potato (changing Lerwick)
- Knight Rd – paving complete, waiting on-line painting (weather?).
- Comox and CVRD hope to construct Lazo Rd and Greenway projects in 2023. We provided letters of support for both grant applications.
- Comox/CVRD sewer line project 2023-24, open houses in Nov (will send info to members)
- Mike to check on 6th St Bridge status

- **Mapping Project**

- Great discussion on options for mapping. We have a better understanding of the process now but still needs some work.
- Appears as though pulling data from OSM is workable, based upon the map that Spencer built and shared. Q – can we build an area map just from OSM or do we need to take the next step using products such as ArcGIS and Adobe Illustrator (used by Lester in 2016) to prepare an interactive pdf document that is probably more “refined”? Grant, Chris and Spencer (and Brian?) will meet to discuss that issue and get back to us.
- Create an outline of wants/needs for a map and get a price estimate(s)
 - CANBICS comfort map vs providing more granular details. Canbics does not deal well with gravel nor the rural/urban differences. Doesn't work for all rider categories as assumptions of comfort are subjective. It is widely used though.
 - Simplicity vs complex, who are our users and what is purpose of the map? Can we build something that has user defined legend so they can pick how what they want to see and make their own decisions? Can a user defined legend be used in OSM map or does it require moving data into GIS.
 - When we capture data from OSM into the map, it does not change within our map even if someone edits on OSM (until we want to pull OSM data again to update new roads, etc)
 - BCCC may be able to connect us with SFU GIS faculty who are working with BCCC on a mapping project for all of BC
 - It is important that we find someone comfortable with editing OSM and use our local knowledge base to ensure we make corrections directly in OSM so they are reflected not only in our maps but anything that is based on OSM.

- **Other Business**

- Mike and Joyce are planning to host a Xmas gathering at their place on Dec 15, please save the date...

6. Additional Agenda items added

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7. Upcoming Events

8. Round Table

9. Adjournment 9:25pm

Next Meeting: Nov 24, 2022 m(Mike will not be able to attend. Jude has Zoom login and will schedule.

Infrastructure Projects

I. Courtenay

- McPhee Meadows Park – in planning stages for 2022, comments submitted
- E-W Courtenay Connection (Tunner Rd) – waiting on budget approval Apr 30 to fund option review. Requires Ducks Unlimited land acquisition and crossing of Hwy 19A Bypass
- 801 Ryan Rd and Courtenay Hotel (498 OIH) – project developments under review, includes multi-use pathway part of E-W Connector
- Courtenay Cycle Network Plan (CNP) update, council discussing in April, to be done by Urban Systems over the summer. Process being developed, we will be contacted as a major stakeholder. Should we send a note to council?
- 5th St Bridge to Ryan Rd Bike Lanes – suggestions submitted and mostly accepted. Construction expected in June 2022.

II. Comox

- Lazo Bike Lanes and multi-use Pathway - permitting ongoing, delayed somewhat but hopeful for 2022 construction
- Comox Ave bike lanes and new roundabout
- Bike lane upgrades to Balmoral and Beaufort to coincide with sewer line upgrades (2023-24?)

III. Cumberland

- Working on Active Transportation Master Plan
- Bevan Multi-use pathway (along Bevan Rd towards Dam)
- Better access to Comox Lake
- Regional parks greenways – connection to Courtenay
- Royston-Cumberland Railway, connection to town

IV. CVRD/MoTI

- Prioritizing projects from ATNP
- Knight Road widening – underway, completion expected for June
- Seal Bay Bates Rd parking lot upgrade – done late 2021 - sightlines, crosswalk and/or speed limit issues?

V. Other Projects

- Condensory Road – KFN letter
- Island Rail Corridor – legal action from Snaw-naw-as at Nanoose may be appealed in March 2023. Could have large implications on ICF land grants in corridor?

