



Bicycling in Greensboro (BIG)

Minutes of September 10, 2015

7:15 p.m., Greensboro, NC

Lewis Recreation Center, 3110 Forest Lawn Drive

Attendance:

Mark Schulz, Immediate Past Chairperson	JD Stewart, Director
John Connor, Chairperson	Jody Dietrich, Director (by phone)
Dusten Winebarger, Chairperson Elect	Elizabeth Paashaus, Director
August Elliott, Secretary	H David Joyce, Guest
David Mandel, Treasurer	Alexa Powell, Guest
Chandler Hagen, Executive Project Manager (EPM)	Laura Peoples, Guest
Tracie Heavner, Director	Dale Brown, Guest
Michael Plakus, Director	

Board members not in attendance:

Joe Towfighi, Director	Mike Whitson, Director
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Call to Order and Introductions

John Connor, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:22pm.

Mission: Bicycling In Greensboro (BIG) is helping to transform Greater Greensboro into a community that supports an active lifestyle through bicycle advocacy, education and stewardship.

Vision: Bicycling is an integral part of our community. Networks of safe and convenient bikeways and complete streets attract all people and connect our neighborhoods. People feel safe when riding their bikes; all road users share the road responsibly. Our communities value bicycling as a form of recreation and sustainable transportation that connects destinations, strengthens our economy, attracts visitors, and promotes a fun, healthy lifestyle.

Attendees gave brief introductions.

The BIG Board welcomed Chandler Hagen. Chandler is BIG's new Executive Project Manager. The BIG Board also thanked Laura Peoples for her service as the previous Executive Director.

Approval of Minutes

Tracie Heavner, Director, motioned to approve the August minutes. Mark Schulz, Immediate Past Chairperson, seconded the motion. After some discussion about the Lawndale festival mentioned in the August minutes, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

David Mandel, Treasurer, reported that the Treasurer's Report was not finished in time for the meeting. He handed out an unofficial copy of the Treasurer's Report for the board to review. The board did not approve the report as it was not completely accurate at the time of the meeting.

David reported that he continues to work with the previous treasurer, Mike Whitson.

John Connor, Chairperson, apologized to David for not going to the bank and giving his signature in time, causing David to have to write a personal check for BIG expenses.

Committee Reports

Standing:

Executive- Members: John Connor, August Elliott, Chandler Hagen, Mark Schulz, Mike Whitson, Dusten Winebarger. The Executive Committee reported that Chandler attended the first Executive Committee Meeting last Friday.

Governance- Members: John Connor, Jody Dietrich. The Governance Committee reported that Chandler's contract has been completed and signed. They also reported that Jody, John, Dusten, and Laura have been working to orient Chandler.

Finance- Members: David Mandel, Elizabeth Paashaus, Mark Schulz. David Mandel, Treasurer, motioned to initiate an online expense form via Google Form. Mark requested that the Board be instructed on the new form. David agreed. The motion was passed unanimously.

Planning:

Advocacy- Members: Laura Peoples. Laura Peoples reported that she introduced Chandler at the most recent TAC meeting. She also reported that she asked the committee about whether or not the A&Y Greenway at Old Battleground would stay open once construction begins in that area. The committee agreed that it should stay open and would make an effort to ensure that it does.

Action Item: Dusten Winebarger, Chairperson Elect, will follow up about potentially posting about the hearing on Facebook or the website.

Education- Members: Tracie Heavner, Co Chair, Michael Plakus, Co Chair, John Connor, Mark Schulz. Michael Plakus, Director, is working on a letter about the diminishing daylight. Laura Peoples suggested that the light and leaves may be a good opportunity for media coverage.

Community- Members: Elizabeth Paashaus, Chair, Jody Dietrich, August Elliott, JD Stewart, Dusten Winebarger. No Report. Dusten committed to having a report at the next BIG Board Meeting.

Capacity- Members: John Connor, Jenny Edwards, Bryan Paxton, Joe Towfighi, Dusten Winebarger. The Bobby LaBonte Ride will bring in a donation of \$5500 early next year. Chandler Hagen, EPM, asked if there were any ideas about what to do with the money. Tracy Heavner, Director, requested \$1000 for the Apple Pie Ride. David Mandel, Treasurer, suggested using some of the money for marketing to members. Laura Peoples suggested that BIG acquire its own tents. Dusten Winebarger, Chairperson Elect, said that he would be able to get a 10X10 tent for around \$500 and/or a 20X10 for around \$1000. Jodi Dietrich, Director, suggested that some of the money be put aside for the EPM reserve fund.

Board Elections

John Connor, Chairperson, reminded the board that elections will be held in October. There are five open board positions. Mark Schulz, JD Stewart, and Michael Plakus complete their terms this year. Jenny Edwards and Nick Harrell resigned from the board. John asked that the board network and be mindful of skills that would benefit the board, such as social media, fundraising, and interest in Changing Gears. David Mandel, Treasurer, asked if there is a listing of all current board members anywhere. Laura Peoples answered that there is a Google Document listing, but that it is not current.

Membership Format

Dusten Winebarger, Chairperson Elect, proposed that BIG change annual memberships to a calendar year of January-December. A January-December membership year would allow for an annual membership drive towards the end of every year that could be built upon annually. Dusten believes that the change could easily be made in Wild Apricot. David Mandel, Treasurer, asked if any financial ramifications have been considered with this change. A grace period for recent memberships could lead to lost revenue. Currently there are only 75 members, so the loss of revenue would not be significant. It was suggested that a membership task force work on a proposal for the change and tangible benefits of membership. Chandler and David are both interested in participating in the task force.

Action Item: Dusten committed to bring a recommendation to the next board meeting.

Project Reports

Changing Gears-

Chandler Hagen, EPM, reported that Changing Gears will be put on hold after September's giveaway. Changing Gears Leadership is concerned that many of the bikes given away are being either stolen or sold. Sheldon would like to see the Interactive Resource Center (IRC) start a bike share program in lieu of the giveaways. The IRC would need to commit more resources to a bike share program than it has to Changing Gears in the past. Chandler will work with Changing Gears leadership and the IRC to develop a plan that satisfies both parties. More to come.

Apple Pie Ride-

Tracie Heavner, Director, reported that the Apple Pie Ride was a great success. She thanked the board for coming together and making it the success it was. She has gotten positive feedback from riders. The same route/location will be used next year. One rest stop will be changed. She plans to start planning and meeting for next year's ride beginning in November. The meetings have previously taken place on Tuesdays at 7am at Panera, but Tracie is open to changing that time/place.

Adjournment

David Mandel, Treasurer, motioned to adjourn. Dusten Winebarger, Chairperson Elect, seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm.