

Great Plains Bicycling Club

Minutes of Board Meeting

6:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 17, 2010
held at Gere Branch, Lincoln City Library

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Boyce at 6:30pm. Present were Bob Boyce, Steve Clements, Chris Hilton, Steve Lauck, Hal Smith, Randy Smith, Di Ann White, Mary Poe and Eric Yule.

Minutes, February Board Meeting: The minutes of the February board meeting were emailed to board members prior to the meeting. There was a motion by Di White seconded by Bob Boyce to approve the minutes as written. Motion passed.

Potential Sponsorship of Special Olympics Bikes through M.A.D. DADS: Bob Boyce mentioned that M.A.D. DADS is planning to provide bikes to support the Special Olympics to be held in Lincoln this year and that they have asked if we could help support the project at \$30 per bike. The Special Olympics does not have a bicycling event and therefore we do not understand how the bicycles fit in with the Special Olympics. The possibility of donating directly to the Special Olympics was brought up. It was decided that we would not act on this request at this time due to the lack of clarity. Di White mentioned the Bikes for the World project she has heard about which provides low cost, sturdy bicycles in third world countries and she felt we might want to explore this project. The website for the Bikes for the World project is <http://www.bikesfortheworld.org/>.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Clements handed out a treasurers report showing a checking account balance of \$11,851.82. He stated that we have received \$1,345 in dues to date (total same time last year was \$1,120). Although we have many members remaining to renew it was his suggestion that we wait until after Spring Fling to send second requests for dues payments as dues have been coming in with Spring Fling registrations.

Spring Ride of March 20: It was reported that the Spring Ride (first of season) has been scheduled and that Pat Grewe is the ride leader. Given the forecast for cold, rain and snow for that day the ride may or may not occur.

Club Ride Schedule: It was noted that the club ride schedule has been published in the Chain Gang and the club's website. There were observations that it looks like we have a nice mix of different types of rides for March through May.

Spring Fling: Steve Clements reported that we have mailed brochures to approximately 1,800 individuals and have distributed approximately 1,600 brochures in bulk to various bike shops in Nebraska and western Iowa as well as sports facilities in Lincoln and Omaha. Board members volunteered to take a supply of brochures for additional placement at other locations. As of today, we have received 17 registrations and registrations are arriving at 2 to 3 per day. Pat Bracken has worked up a note to email to club members to solicit volunteers for the event. Bob Boyce asked if we should consider offering the option of accepting credit cards on our website for event registration and dues payments. After discussion it was decided that at this time our volume does not justify the addition of credit card or PayPal® processing.

Education Outreach: Bob Boyce noted that Lincoln Earth Day will be April 24, State Kids Day May 7 and May 18 and that he will be looking for volunteers to help staff booths at these events.

Buying or Renting a Club Trailer: Hal Smith has looked at trailers for transporting around 10 bikes and equipment. The intent would be for member use in certain club activities or events such as RAGBRAI. He noted that a 6' by 12' enclosed trailer has a cost of approximately \$5,000. This trailer could be pulled behind a vehicle with a towing hitch. It was recommended that we try to rent a trailer and gauge the members participation level on a one or two day traveling event. This would help us decide whether a purchase would have a reasonable appeal to our members. Hal will follow up on this concept

Advertising in the Great Plains Trails Network Newsletter: In order to get our name out in a publication received by numerous persons in the area many who likely have similar interests as GPBC and to increase membership, it was moved by Steve Clements, seconded by Hal Smith to place a ¼ page advertisement in each of the next four newsletters of the Great Plains Trails Network (cost of \$50 per issue). Motion passed. Di White agreed to work up a draft advertisement and circulate it to the board members.

Bike to Work Week Planning: Bob Boyce stated that the City of Lincoln is planning a bike to work day for Friday, May 14 to be called the Mayor's Celebrity Ride. The City of Lincoln is unable to solicit donations for the event due to potential conflicts of interest. Money would be used to purchase refreshments and potentially prizes for persons who bike to the downtown that day. It was moved by Bob Boyce and seconded by Randy Smith that the club donate \$200 to the city to be used for this project. The voice vote was close so a showing of hands was used. The vote ended up 5 for, 4 against with 1 abstaining.

Motion passed. Donation is to be made payable to the City of Lincoln and is to be mailed to the Department of Parks and Recreation, 2740 A Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, attention Terry Genrich.

Ride of Silence: The Ride of Silence is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Ride will begin at Sawyer Snell Park, 1st and South Street and follow the same route as last year. It was requested that we consider a bike trailer or a Burley (children's ride behind) to attach a sign identifying this as the Ride of Silence and maybe stating the website for the Ride of Silence so that the public has the opportunity to become familiar with what the ride is about. Di White has agreed to check on signage and report back to the board.

Next Meeting: The next board meeting will be held on May 12, 2010 at a location to be communicated later. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Clements
for Eric Yule, Secretary