

# Bike Fitchburg, Inc. Monthly Meeting Minutes

Monday, 9/26/2022, 6:30-8:00pm, Atomic Koi

- 1) Call to order, roll call, welcome - Tony  
Pre-meeting discussion regarding location of the meeting. Thad suggested patronizing a business rather than risk getting kicked out of the library.
- 2) Approval of past minutes: August 22, 2022  
Postpone until next month
- 3) Treasurer's report – Steve (numbers below represent figures as of ...Sunday, 9/25?)
  - a) Checking account now @ \$18,760.83. Liabilities to 4 sub-accounts: JUST Bikes small grants funds of \$1500; Kyle Stiegert memorial fund of \$14,463.32; AARP Small Dollar, Big Impact grant \$1000; Pick Me Up' now an asset of \$536.80; RunSign will pay bal. due on Sep 28??
  - b) Recent checking transactions; \$15.81 monthly payment to Zoom; \$332 in payments from RunSignUp; contribution of \$48.6 to the Stiegert fund; \$25 from Fitchburg Family Pharmacy (FFP) for Bicycle Benefits Stickers. (We owe bicycle Benefits \$50, waiting for invoice.)
  - c) Our savings account received another \$0.05 in interest and now totals \$1801.81.
  - d) ¡Pick Me Up at the Border! success; we earned \$1180 in registration fees for 39 riders (about average; never had more than 50) and received \$640 in additional donations. \$250 of the donations were from FFP to cover the \$50 fee for the Boys & Girls Club Bicycle Friendly Business application and food and drinks for Pick Me Up. We spent \$159.72 for those drinks and snacks, for a profit of \$1610.28.  
Discussion point: people who register at the event and pay by cash or check sidestep the online waiver. We need to provide paper forms or force people to register online via their phone.
  - e) Our net worth has increased to \$4136.12 (up from \$3390.41 last month).
  - f) We should give "in-kind" donation to people who drove and provided SAG during the Pick Me Up event (call it a donation, and Mike, Steve, & Thad can write that amount off of their taxes).
  - g) Cut checks to Mike to cover \$151 PMU snacks, and \$250 for ½ of LCI fee.
- 4) Old business
  - a) Priorities/work plan - Tony
    - i) 10 min. Round table discussion – everyone will pick 1-2 priorities, we'll then tally the most votes & create our 2023 work plan rough draft
    - ii) Steve: Whatever it takes to get us to Gold Status
      - (1) Induce the city to pass a bike/ped plan. Probably takes \$25k in consultancy fees, but we may be able to do some of the grunt work
      - (2) Fitchburg Greenway system. Define segments, Obtain funding / grants.
    - iii) Kay: Ditto Steve. Specifically misplaced Cannonball Path sign at bridge over PD
    - iv) Mike:
      - (1) Board and/or volunteer recruitment. Steve & Mark have discussed and pondered how to get underrepresented & POC who typically have less free time. Perhaps Queer Ride? Need to be more proactive with our calendar so we have > 30 days to get volunteers and participants. Tony will talk to Julia about family friendly event dates. Other people to talk to Joe Maldonado and Balthazar. We can use the mailing list and social media.
      - (2) Going for Gold
    - v) Joe:
      - (1) eBikes & Seniors: Inclusivity, allowing eBikes on trails. Limit restrictions that could discourage seniors from biking

- (2) Get our act together for PMU event. Better organized, better advertised, etc.
  - vi) McKenzie:
    - (1) Implement Phases 1 & 2 of BCycle expansion to Fitchburg
    - (2) Recruitment drive
  - vii) Thad:
    - (1) More bike friendly businesses (helps with Gold status)
    - (2) Bike Rodeos: Gold Status, youth involvement, community involvement
  - viii) Bill:
    - (1) Increasing bike network connectivity. Including plowing in the winter.
    - (2) More and better bike parking
  - ix) Tony
    - (1) Bike patrol for the police
    - (2) More involvement with mountain biking
  - x) We'll collect 5 votes from each of us in order to decide our official priorities. *Note: use Joe's AT&T rather than gmail address.*
- b) Education and encouragement – Tony/Mike/Thad (or Other PUB Ride Leader)
- i) Aug 25 Welcome to Fitchburg! event at Southdale Park: Event went well. Took over the basketball court. Key is that we bring some bikes. We got 32 helmets with lights from GHC. Need headlights.
  - ii) Sep 9 Senior Center Smart Cycling class. Canceled; only 3 people signed up. Thought about moving back a month, but half that time is gone. May do a different class on driving with bike/peds in mind. Teach bicycle laws. How to turn right when there's a bike lane. Explain why bicyclists do what they do. Existing video/course available on the League website. Idea: hit up employers to enroll all their employees because insurance companies love it.
  - iii) Sep 22 ¡Pick Me Up at the Border!; PMUp' plans for '23. Date confirmed. Steve will re-up with online signup platform.
  - iv) Balance of '22 events, '23 projected calendar x
  - v) Mike thinking about events for the spring. Perhaps bike giveaway. Should contact Free Bikes 4 Kidz, and we should have an event with whomever is receiving a truckload of bikes.
  - vi) We got grants and gave away bicycle repair stations to Leopole, Luna, King James Way,...Bike Fed had several events: pitched a tent in the park and repaired bikes
- c) Fitch' Bicycle Committee & BCycle Fitchburg update ('22 supply chain issues) – Tony/Steve McKenzie: Supply chain issues delaying delivery of docking station & bikes. Will be part of the BCycle re-opening which is always Mar 15.  
Steve: For Gold status, let's get a photo-op of a similar dock with bikes to submit to LAB.
- d) Project status & Public Works/Parks projects – (Steve)
- i) Social media outreach/ Business outreach update
  - ii) Parking census/Bike counts; Fitchburg Greenways System grant & mini-resolution
  - iii) McCoy/CTH MM; W. Lacy Rd/S Syene Rd; Traceway Dr; Verona sewer/MRT closure
  - iv) More; Stewart Tunnel; Grandview/Vroman; Purcell resurfacing
- e) Gold Status: Steve & Mark have been meeting and going through improvements we need to make. Need help/volunteers.
- i) Bike counts have been collected. Extrapolating back in time (via manual counts)
  - ii) BCycle: bike transit in the city
  - iii) Greenway system. Need city to pass a resolution to commit to signage. Steve is responsible for ordering the signs.
  - iv) Bicycle friendly businesses. Wed at 8am, awards are given out. Fitchburg had 9 applicants: 4 bronze, 3 silver, 1 platinum, waiting on Saris app. News release goes out

Wed 8am. Mark not available for an event at that time. Awardees honored at the council meeting on Tue Oct 11 7:30pm. Asking the City to apply as well as BF. Some other businesses (Funk's, others?) have indicated they'd like to do this in the future. Should BF allocate \$625 to purchase plaques for the 9 businesses? Ask ahead and we'll pay for anyone who will display it publicly. Motion passed.

- v) Equity: McKee restriping between FHR and Seminole. Buffered bike lanes will go in. Driving lanes will go from 12' to 11' (will slow the speed). Diagonal lines not worth the cost – better to do more buffered lanes than fewer with diagonal stripes.

#### 5) New business

- i) Should City of Fitchburg be a Bicycle Friendly Business? (see notes above)
- ii) Places For Bikes work - Steve: Street view surfing in various cities and updating Open Street Maps as part of his part time employment.
- iii) Steve helping Race Day Events get bike racks
- iv) Construction has started on Syene Rd between E Cheryl & Lacy
- v) Stewart Tunnel on BST: DNR will move on option #4 (tunnel within tunnel). Likely in the next governor's term.
- vi) City budget has been posted. Need volunteer to review for items in it for us to support or missing and need amendments to include in budget. Now is the time. If it's not in the budget it's not getting spent in 2023. Amendment deadline is coming up soon.
- vii) BF board meeting location. Possibilities: Race Day Events, Should meet at one of the Bike Friendly businesses.
  - (1) Oct 24: Funks. Steve will call them.
  - (2) Nov 28: Delta Beer Lab. Tony will call them.
  - (3) Dec: No meeting due to the holidays

#### 6) Adjournment

Steve moved, Tony 2nd'd motion carried