

Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition
January 3rd, 2001 Board Meeting
Chequers, Richmond, Vermont

Present: Richard Bernstein <rbernste@zoo.uvm.edu>, Dale Critchlow <critchlo@emba.uvm.edu>, Rick Good <shiesl@sover.net>, Dave Jacobowitz <david.jacobowitz@uvm.edu>, Jan McCleery <mcclery@norwich.edu>, George Plumb <plumb@together.net>, Richard Warren <rwarren@vtc.vsc.edu>.

Guests: Amy Bell <amy.bell@state.vt.us>, Louis Bresee <lakelou@together.net>, Marc Companion <marcc@together.net>, Linda Fickbohm <lindaf@skirack.com>, Ben Haydock <bhaydock@compuserve.com>, Jon Kaplan <jon.kaplan@state.vt.us>, Chapin Spencer <chapin@together.net>

Meeting called to order by Richard at 6:15 PM.

Minutes: Motion to approve last meetings minutes – Jan, second – Richard. Approved with no changes.

Review of agenda – no changes.

President's Report:

There is a national bike summit coming up March 28-30 in Washington, DC. It is sponsored by the LAB. Registration is \$285 if received by February 15. Bunky suggested that some of us consider attending.

Executive Director's Report:

Renewals are coming in. George will send out a follow-up letter this month.

Anne Lusk has suggested that we apply to the Freeman Foundation for a grant. George has obtained the grant application form. The deadline is February 23rd and he will apply on our behalf.

Treasurer's Report:

We have \$405.22 in our checking account.

We have \$40 which has not yet been placed in our checking account. (In addition several individuals after the meeting renewed their memberships.)

We also have \$1,500 allocated to us from the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports which we should spend. (Some of this may be spent at the Bicycling and Walking Summit.)

Secretary's Report

Brochures were received on Walking Communities for the upcoming Bicycling and Walking Summit.

VTran Report

All is going well, but nothing new to report.

Bicycling and Walking Summit

George has confirmed the date of the Summit as March 17th at the Vermont Technical College in Randolph.

Amy produced a mailing list of individuals and groups which will receive the letter on the summit.

George produced an agenda for discussion.

9:30 – 10:00 AM – Registration and Coffee

Join your friends and colleagues and meet new ones at our Exhibitor's Continental Breakfast! Coffee, juice and danish will be served. Here's a great opportunity to get more information about the state of bicycling and walking in Vermont and to see what others in the field are doing.

10:00 AM – 10:15 AM - Opening Comments

Richard Bernstein, M.D., President of the Vermont Bicycling and Pedestrian Coalition

Dr. Bernstein will provide an overview of the purpose of the day.

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM – Self Introductions

Each participant will briefly introduce him or herself and what group, if any, is being represented.

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM – Consensus on the need for a strong statewide organization

The group will discuss, and hopefully, reach agreement, on the need for a strong statewide, umbrella type bicycle and pedestrian advocacy and education organization with an office and paid director.

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM – Small Group Discussions

We will break into three? small groups to discuss what steps need to be taken to build this strong organization.

1. How can all of the existing organizations collaborate to make such an organization happen?
2. What would the appropriate funding needs be for such an organization and how can the funds be obtained?
3. How can we increase membership?

12:15 PM – 1:30 PM – Lunch and Visit with the Exhibitors

Walk to the cafeteria, enjoy lunch, and further discuss the mornings activities.

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM – Talk???

???? will provide a brief overview of the status of bicycling and walking in Vermont and his/her perspective on how we can build a strong movement to get more people bicycling and walking.

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM – Group Reports

Each group will be given ten minutes to make their recommendations and then the larger group will be given fifteen minutes to discuss, accept, reject, or modify the recommendations

3:00 PM – 3:30 PM – Wrap up and Closing

We will leave the Summit with a clear sense of opportunities for collaboration and commitment by volunteers and organizations to work together to implement a strong statewide bicycling and pedestrian advocacy effort including what the next steps will be and who will do them.

3:30 PM– Ride to Floating Bridge in Brookfield

Those who want to can join in a ride to the historic and scenic floating bridge in Brookfield. In can be either a to and back trip of ten miles or a loop trip of about twenty miles.

Numerous comments were made on the above outline of an agenda. Too many to record. A quick summary of some of the comments is as follows:

“Self Introduction” – Might be too short depending on the number of people.

“Consensus on the need for a strong statewide organization” - Some people thought this might not be necessary as it’s the main reason for the Summit. It was thought individuals would not be at the Summit if they did not think a strong statewide organization was necessary. There was some discussion on what type of organization would be best and how the various groups, i.e., individuals, non-profit (bike and walking clubs), commercial (bike shops, bike touring groups, bike/walking manufacturers), and government (federal, state, regional, and local), could have positions on the board.

“Small Group Discussions” – There was a lot of discussion as to how many groups and what the best topics for discussion were.

“Talk???” – There was some discussion as to whether this was necessary. There was other discussion as to who might be best as a speaker.

“Wrap Up and Closing” – There seemed to be consensus that we need an energizing ending.

George, Marc, and Chapin agreed to work on a final draft of the agenda.

David and Rick agreed to work on changes to the By-laws for inclusion of different groups on the board.

Web Site

We now have a domain name, i.e.

www.vtbikeped.org

The cost for registration of the domain name was \$70 for two years. There was a motion and second to pay for same. Passed.

An ISP will probably cost about \$20 per month, unless something can be worked out for less when we get our 501(c)(3) status.

There was some discussion on as to what might go into a web site. Some of the comments included: a state-wide calendar for all groups, maps, legislative issues, state budget for bike and pedestrian activities, ride-to-work and bike-to-work information. In general it was thought it should be a “Hub of Information”.

Dave, Bruce Cunningham, and Rick will work on the web site to be presented at a future board meeting.

Board of Directors

Some discussion was made as to whether to appoint Bruce Cunningham to the board. It was thought that Bruce was overlooked when the present board was formed. It was decided to wait until Bruce was present since at this point his appointment would be temporary until the next Annual Meeting.

New Business

There was no new business.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 7th at 6:00 PM. It will again be at Chequers in Richmond.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, rick