

**GEARS Greater Eugene Area Riders
Board Meeting
5:30-7:30 p.m.
August 3, 2016**

Where: New Day Bakery — 449 Blair Blvd., Eugene, OR 97402

Board members present: Steve Hecker , Lyn Gilman-Garrick, Dana Brownfield, Mike Cantrell, John Hofer, Mel Huey

Absent: Kristin Yarris, Judy Duff

Others present: Paula Erickson and Jim Wilcox

July 2016 Board Meeting Minutes _____

[Meeting started at 5:35 p.m.]

1.) Introductions

None needed.

2.) Approval of July Minutes

Suspended — will do via email.

3.) bRamble Report (Paula)

a.) Last minute issues

SAG people will now meet at 7:00 a.m. Paula is also having to organize SAG people and items they need from storage unit.

Steve said that when we do our review of the ride, let's keep in mind that there are so many volunteer hours that go into this that if we're only making \$5000, then we can probably find that money in easier ways. We really need to rethink doing it (or doing the celebration part of it). Mike and Steve got tons of calls in the last week about stuff and they weren't supposed to be in that position. Steve found binders from previous bRambles in a box in the storage room that no one knew were there — we need to clean and organize and keep a record of what is in storage room. Lyn says maybe we need a person who is keeper of the documents.

b.) Current registration numbers

Mike reported that we have 291 pre-registered as of today, so we are close to last year's numbers.

c.) Desperate volunteer needs?

None, really. Couldn't find a mechanic for Crow. Jim Wilcox told us that Tom Rowe, the mobile mechanic we asked to do it who has done it before, said he is never offered any money to do it and so he said no (Dana notes that he didn't mention that to me when I asked him). Caitlin from Best Buy will help at breakfast, too (so will Dana).

d.) Community Ride update

We've got the route finally. Matthew is leading the ride, not Shane. The route has been marked.

[Paula left at 5:50 p.m.]

4.) Committee Reports

a.) Rides committee (Mike/Steve)

- *Leader recruitment*
- *Weather policy*
- *Special rides: 16 Tons, Foster Lake ride/camp*
- *Ride leader reporting system*
- *Ride list update*
- *Beginner rides*

Some people don't want to lead because of the weather policy — that we have to show up rain or shine. If it's raining, the leader can cancel it, or others can do a ride, but then it's not a GEARs ride. Problem with rain is that it can be that it's raining in one part of town but not another, so you can't say rain cancels.

They talked about a point system for ride leaders to earn points to get gift certificates as an incentive to get leaders.

Leaders should start carrying first aid kits, but we will not "require" it. If there is an injury where that person can't ride further, the ride leader should stay with that person and ask another person to lead the ride to the finish. There is a reporting method for injuries — also insurance forms to fill out. Mike is finishing a ride leader forum for current ride leaders and they will have a user name and password. Mike will monitor it.

Foster Lake ride August 26-27 are the overnights — double spot for ten tents with another available. Jackie's husband will drive stuff there for those who don't want to carry their own stuff. Also two rides Saturday for others to come and do with a park and ride from Coburg park. Food will be up to each person. Gary and Jackie are coordinating this.

Ride leaders are doing the PEDAL info. and speeds on bike path are staying under 15. Leaders should emphasize that "car back" means move over NOW. Some folks are a bit hard of hearing, but other than that, there are some folks that just don't move over. We should move over even if there is no oncoming traffic and the cars "can" go into the other lane to go around riders.

Mike is working on converting the ride list to a ride database that is searchable. Rob Roy and Dana will help make new maps and help Mike with it. It will take at least 6 months to get it done.

Mary, one of the owners of Arriving by Bike, is very interested in leading beginner rides. She doesn't want to do it via the store for insurance reasons, but is willing to be a leader of beginner rides for GEARs. She can recruit beginners for GEARs in that way, too. Lyn is willing to contact Mary about this and get the word out about it. Mel and Lyn will talk about getting more folks going to our diversion class, too — getting those classes more appealing to wider public, not just folks who get moving violation tickets. Maybe we could get someone from Paul's leading beginner rides, too?

Women's tour is on. Will be on website this week. Women's rides are going well. 16 Tons gave us \$100 from the after-ride events we've had there. Steve will send a thank you note to them

*** Action Items: 1.) Lyn to contact Mary about leading beginner rides. Lyn and Mel to discuss more about the classes and getting wider public going to them. 2.) Steve to send a thank you to 16 Tons.**

b.) Budget committee/Treasurer's report (Judy)

Judy is out of town, but emailed the budget sheets.

c.) Bylaw committee recommendations, including plans for annual meeting (Lyn)

Document sent by Lyn 8/2/16 to board members via email:

Mike, Steve, Judy and I met to discuss changes to the bylaws. There were quite a few sections that we felt could use tweaking, expanding or changing. However, we decided to focus on one major change this year: staggered two year term limits. Here is the language that we came up with. Sorry I didn't get it to you sooner. Ought to heed my own advice!

Reason why two year staggered terms are so important: "The benefit of staggered terms is that they can promote continuity on the board by ensuring there is always a group of experienced directors on the board while the new directors are getting up to speed."

Suggested language changes: Starting in November 2018, **all** directors shall serve a term of **two** years. The terms shall be staggered. To achieve staggered terms, in November 2017, **four** board members shall be elected to serve **two** year terms and **three** board members shall be elected to a **one** year term. At the next Board of Directors meeting in December 2017, the board members will decide by consensus which members serve the two and one year terms. If consensus cannot be reached, there shall be a drawing to determine which four directors serve the two year terms and which three directors serve the one year term. The minutes of this board meeting shall show the results of the drawing.

Lyn said it's best to keep it simple and get the membership to vote on this one bylaws change this year at the Annual General Meeting, although there are other changes they thought should be made. It's not in the bylaws whether the officers are elected by members or by the current board; in other words, the members elect the board members, but it's not in the bylaws that they must elect people for specific roles on the board. We could let the board members who are elected decide who does what. The Vice President is in charge of nominations and recruiting. General Meeting will be Wed., October 26 (nominations), and the Annual Meeting will be Wed., November 30 (bylaws voting and board member voting).

Steve will be gone Oct. 13 – November 19.

*** Action Items: 1.) Lyn to make sure we have the Garden Club for these meeting dates.**

*** Resolution item — Unanimous: Motion for the board to forward this proposal to the general membership. All in favor.**

d.) Survey report (John)

John completed 10 more calls. Of these 10 no one rides regularly with GEARS and half don't really ride much at all. That makes the rest of the survey moot, other than why they don't ride with the club. Why are they members then? They like to support GEARS — "keep up the good work" they say. Many folks don't ride with us regularly. We do need to do more to get the 10-12 mph riders riding with us. Steve wonders what would happen if we raise the membership rates — would these people

who don't ride much not renew? Mike said that hasn't seemed to be the case in the past when we raised dues. We'll discuss more about the surveying in the future.

5.) Requests/Outreach

a.) Legislative hearing on transportation needs 7/20 (Lyn)

In 2017, the Oregon Legislature hopes to pass a major transportation funding package. In advance of the legislative session, the thirteen-member Joint Transportation Committee will be touring the state to talk to citizens, government officials and business and community leaders about local transportation needs and priorities. They will also be taking bus tours of transportation trouble spots in each of the areas they visit. The Committee came to Eugene on Wednesday, July 20th, and Rob Zeko, Executive Director of Better Eugene Area Transit (BEST), asked GEARs to send some folks to make their voices heard by attending the public hearing and participating in a rally before the hearing. Lyn and Richard Hughes testified at that hearing. The big issue that most people were testifying about was 126 from Eugene to Florence and how unsafe it is. Territorial Road was mentioned by several as being in need of changes.

b.) Sunday Streets

Mel said Breakfast at the Bridges has been more productive than Sunday Streets was in July. Jim and Steve noted that there seemed to be less people than last summer at Sunday Streets and it was so spread out that not many folks came to our table.

c.) UC Davis transportation students visit on Sep. 7 (Steve)

A group of students coming here to look at our bicycling infrastructure — they are doing a ride around town and looking at stuff and learning about policy issues. We might send someone on the ride with them if someone is interested – Steve will probably go. They are meeting with Live-Move at the U of O, too. Mel said it would be interesting to hear from these students about how they see Eugene compared to Davis — maybe something for the newsletter. Steve will throw it out there to them.

d.) Brompton event on August 12

They seemed to be asking us to promote it.

e.) Willamalane Employee Wellness Fair

My name is Teri Jacobs and I am a Wellness Program Intern at Willamalane Park and Recreation District in the Human Resources/Risk Department. I recently sent you an email regarding Willamalane's Safety and Wellnessfair. The fair will be on September 1st from 12-2pm. I am helping set the event up this year and we would love for you to attend. Cycling is a great way promote wellness! I was hoping you may consider a table at the fair and perhaps give tips about safety topics like helmet fitting or bike sizing. Attached is the application that will need to be completed and sent back in order to attend.

They wanted GEARs to not only table at the event (Mel is doing the table), but to also talk to people about safety issues. Peace Health does the helmet fitting thing with their van. That is not what we do. We don't do bike sizing either. We promote riding! Mel could give her a call to discuss what else he could do. Mel said distributing the city's bike map is a big hit.

8.) New business

Jim Wilcox said he's going to be interviewing Chris Henry, City of Eugene Transportation Planning Engineer, and make it shorter than the last interview write up. Jim said they are finalizing the Willamette Street changes, and it will be interesting to see what it's like in the Fall and the U of O students are back and summer vacationing is over. Jim timed a car ride down Willamette and the times were lower than the projections from two years ago and he wrote it up for the city legislators. He says Willamette is looking really positive. We all think that it is working pretty well so far.

Steve said he noticed when riding on Willamette that the turn lane signal now goes from a green to a flashing yellow and people are very confused. It's a new national standard according to Jim. Jim will talk to Chris Henry about that when he interviews him.

There's a new electrical box that is blocking the view of bikes from cars at the light at the entrance to the shopping center on Willamette. It will cost like \$30,000 to fix!

[Meeting ended at 7:03 p.m.]

Minutes taken by Dana Brownfield, Secretary, GEARS