



# South Coast Bikeway Alliance

Meeting Notes January 12, 2016

**Attending:** Bob Espindola, Jeff Oakes, Greg Barnes, Sandra Medeiros, Eileen Allgor, Bonne DeSousa, Jackie Schmidt, Brian Moses

**Update on Special Presentation from last meeting:** Bonne gave an update on the walking tour presentation from our last meeting. Raianne Richards told her they are planning a program for the South Coast in late June. They plan to visit the New Bedford art museum and locations throughout our area starting 6/21 in Wareham , 6/22 - Marion, 6/23 - Mattapoisett, Friday 6/24 - Fairhaven 6/25 - Dartmouth YMCA 6/26 - New Bedford Art Museum. 6/27 and 6/28 would be reserved for Westport and Fall River. It's not clear who Raianne is contacting in the various communities about venues etc. Their website is [www.walkingtour.org](http://www.walkingtour.org) and her email address is [masswalkingtour@gmail.com](mailto:masswalkingtour@gmail.com)

## Meeting Minutes

Bonne made a motion to accept the October minutes, seconded by Greg – approved.

**Treasurers Report** No activity since last meeting. Current balance is \$1946.00, with a check from NBW for \$3050 to be deposited. Sandra had a gift certificate from the challenge returned for \$50 and she also has 3 \$15 gift cards returned. All the items left over from the challenge will be used at the upcoming summit.

Eileen made a motion to accept the treasurer report, seconded by Bonne – approved.

## Executive Committee Report

There is currently a vacancy on the Executive Committee – nomination of Sandra Medeiros was made and accepted, subject to her approval by the town of Dartmouth to represent them on the SCBA.

A conference call was held December 4<sup>th</sup> with a few executive committee members in attendance – they reviewed topics for the subcommittees and will defer to those reports for updates. They also discussed whether or not UMass Dartmouth was planning to attend the January meeting – no confirmation from UMass so no presentation at this January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Communication was also discussed during the call on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> – more on that topic under Communication.

## Building a Bike Culture Report

This committee has been busy planning the annual summit – see detailed report attached.

Highlights – Summit will be March 24<sup>th</sup> at White's of Westport. The topics are Safe Routes To School and senior riding groups (renamed as casual group rides). There will be light appetizers prior to the summit and après summit, as last year. The committee requested a vote for the budget for the summit including food and advertising. Bonne made a motion to approve funds not to exceed \$2000, seconded by Greg – approved.

Please refer to the attached report for more information on the summit.

## Partnering Report

Bonne and Nancy attended Age Friendly New Bedford community meetings. Jeff will follow up with the American Lung Association, Top of the Hill seniors outdoor group, People for Bikes for partnering opportunities. Jeff, Bonne and Bob plan to attend a MassBike workshop January 21<sup>st</sup> regarding regional



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chapter organization followed by a "Bike Means Business" presentation on engaging local business in pathways.

A discussion was held regarding SCBA joining chambers of commerce in New Bedford and Fall River. It was suggested that someone from SCBA must commit to attending the chambers meetings in order for this to be effective. Janice volunteered to represent SCBA at the Fall River Chamber of Commerce. The Steering Committee approved spending the fee, not to exceed \$300 – motion made by Bob, seconded by Jeff - approved. The fee to join New Bedford chamber is \$215 – it was decided to join one at this time and evaluate prior to joining New Bedford. Membership in the Chamber of Commerce could be very beneficial for fundraising because of access to companies that may make regular charitable donations. GNBCOC offered to help us "develop a business plan" for working with them.

### **Infrastructure Report**

SRPEDD issued the regional bike plan. This is quite an achievement as a separate bike plan has not been issued by SRPEDD since 1979 – it had been incorporated into the transportation plan. Nice work by Jackie.

This committee did not meet, no response for requests to meet.

### **Fundraising**

Janice made the presentation to Narragansett Bay Wheelmen and obtained \$3050 for the South Coast Bikeway Alliance. Joan created the presentation with information provided by Bob and photos from Jen. Nice teamwork to accomplish this donation.

Deadlines for Cape Cod Five and Bristol County Savings were missed. This committee will create a calendar for next year to hopefully avoid missing deadlines in the future.

Bonne offered to meet with the Fundraising committee to share some insights she has gleaned from fundraising efforts for Mattapoissett.

### **Communication**

Google Groups is not working for the majority of the committee – this will be replaced with simply creating email lists via contacts for each committee. The subcommittee format was discussed, in order for this to work we all must make a concentrated effort to meet – each subcommittee will meet on a regular basis to accomplish one top goal for this year.

### **Other**

Meeting adjourned 8:10.

**Next Steering Committee meeting      Tuesday, March 8, 2016**



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## BUILDING A BIKE CULTURE – REPORT 01/12/2016

**Acting Chair:** Bob Espindola

**Scribe:**

**Members:**

Bob Espindola	Sandra Medeiros
Nancy Bonnell	Julie Kelly
Gail Hartnett-Rodriguez	Janice Velozo
Joan Kinniburgh	

**Mission:**

### Accomplishments:

1. Held a series of conference calls to discuss March 24<sup>th</sup> Summit.
2. Decided to hold the event at Whites of Westport again (second year in a row).
3. Made reservations with White for the night of March 24<sup>th</sup>.
4. Confirmed that the key areas of the summit would be Safe Routes to School and Senior Riding Groups (trying to find the best euphemism for those groups). Agenda times roughed out (to be confirmed once after comments are received from the full committee on January 12<sup>th</sup>) as follows;
  - a. (10 Minutes) **Welcome and Overview of Accomplishments** in the past year, including a brief summary of the Bike Challenge last year and promotion for it this year. We will rely on a designated representative of the Infrastructure Committee to provide a report in that area or provide a report that one of the MC's can read from.
  - b. (20 Minutes) **Safe Routes to School – Presentation.** Promotion of the program and call to all local Bike Path Committees, PTO's, School Officials, etc. to start programs in as many communities as possible in our SCBA area and to expand the number of rides already taking place in communities with SRTS programs already. Erin Reed, from the Mass DOT SRTS program joined us on one of our calls and agreed to be the featured presenter in this area.
  - c. (10 Minutes) **Safe Routes to School – Panel Discussion.** A panel of representatives from communities with established SRTS programs for Q&A after Erin's'. Mat Coes, from the Fairhaven Bikeway Committee will be part of that panel and said he would be very happy to be available for one-on-one before or after, but is not real comfortable speaking to crowds so would prefer for Erin go take the lead on that. Will seek representatives from New Bedford and Fall River as well.



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5. Note: Whites of Westport said that it would be OK for us to have a group of kids ride their bikes into the banquet room from outside as we start the SRTS discussion as a visual, if the group wants to do this. The subcommittee would like feedback from the full group on this. We might want to have one of the kids on the panel or say a few words before they all ride out (led by an adult, of course).
6. Note: Erin suggested that we might want to include the New Bedford / Fall River Police Departments to do a presentation on their Bike repair program (teaching kids to repair and then keep bikes, similar to what New Bedford REC was doing when Tony was there). The group thought that would be a good idea but better for that to be a “vendor / guest” table before the event rather than making it part of the actual agenda.
7. (15 Minutes). **“Senior Riding Groups”** Similar to promoting SRTS, this is aimed at getting more people in the, say 50+ age group or retirees out riding. A Panel made up of Riders from several established, local “Senior” riding groups will discuss how they have organized for group rides and how doing so has resulted in more riding than they would have individually. A slide show will be shown in the background showing some of their rides (some have traveled to other locals together to experience other bike paths and on road rides) as they speak. We are hoping to get one person to step forward to do a brief presentation at the outset, followed by a panel Q&A, like with the SRTS format. We are looking for a more euphemistic name for this group while still making it easy to identify who we are talking about. Your ideas are welcome. So far we have “Casually employed” as one suggestion but are not sure that people would read that and understand what age group we are talking about.
8. (5 Minutes) – **Closing remarks** and invitation to post Summit social down the Hall (also has been reserved with Whites – same location and format as last year). Emphasize staying over to network with others about SRTS and Senior Riding groups. A large turnout at the social, having people sign on to mailing lists for these two specialty areas will be a major goal at the summit.

SC Vote and/or Discussion Required:

Yes

No

- a. Vote to approve or amend budget for 2016 Budget
- b. Vote to approve or amend the proposed Agenda for the 2016 Summit.

### Action Plan:

1. Finalize SRTS and Senior Riding Group Panelists.
2. Finalize presenter for the Senior Riding Group.
3. If the budget is approved, develop and distribute flyers for the event.
4. Write Press Release for the event.



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5. Coordinate with Jackie Schmidt to get an e-mail blast out to our friends groups and for same PA system support as last year (which worked out great).
6. Reach out to same groups who set up tables at the last summit to see if they would like to be there again and / or find others (target 8-10 total).

**Next Meeting: TBD – within one week of January 12<sup>th</sup> SCBA meeting.**