



DRAFT

Working Bikes Annual Meeting Minutes

February 3rd, 2021

1. Call to order - 7:15 PM

Trevor Clarke called the meeting to order at 7:19 PM.

a. Introductions/In attendance

Present were Trevor Clarke, Amy Little, Lee Ravenscroft, Phil Kaplan, Dave Gorman, Jerry McNamara, Mike Santomauro, Ed Kestin, Anna Henschel, Derek Brown, Jon Voss, Dalia Garcia, Jon Fraleigh, Katie Hill, Julie Globokar, Frank Richardson, Eric Wood, Xail Hernandez, Tom Renaud, Mark Dabrowski, Ed Hanlon, Devon Snyder, Paul Nelson, Angela Taylor, Ellen Gibbons, Luke Blakely, Sarah Fiorito, Chef Mel, and Paul Fitzgerald

2. Approval of December 2nd, 2020 minutes

Approved as presented. (Phil-1, Anna-2, unanimous)

3. Community Partner Presentation - [Ben Voss video](#) / [Jon Voss from Africycle!](#)

Jon talked with us from Canada. He started by showing a video message from his brother Ben in Malawi. They typically take 5-7 containers each year. They will receive our next shipment, following Sierra Leone, in March. Bicycling is common in Malawi. About half of the citizens have a bike, and only 1% have a motor vehicle. The average distance to markets is 10k. The average bike sells for \$60, and the monthly per capita income averages \$40. They prefer mountain bikes with strong frames. They employ five women loan managers. Loans are 5% interest annually with 6-month payback periods. There are currently 200 loans. They also provide mechanical training with all bike sales, and more recently Covid / health education.

4. Community Partner Presentation - [Derek Brown, Boxing Out Negativity](#)

Derek told his moving personal story of growing up poor in North Lawndale, getting into trouble, and finding redemption as an adult helping children avoid the path he walked through boxing and biking, dedicating himself to be a positive influence for youth in North Lawndale. He uses organized bike rides to establish connections between the many organizations active in the community, and to show off the loving nature of North Lawndale residents. The Street Love Ride is one in particular that all Working Bikes members should try to be part of. Julie added to the importance of bikes for the youth, making it now equal to boxing. They can be reached at info@boxingoutnegativity.org.

5. Board of Directors elections

a. 2 year terms, up for renewal, slate proposed:

- i. Phil Kaplan
- ii. Michael "Magic" Santomauro
- iii. Jerry Cohen
- iv. Dalia Garcia

- v. Caronina Grimble
Phil briefly reviewed all eleven members of the board, and asked for a vote on the slate for these five that are at the end of their terms. This was approved. (Trevor-1, Amy-2, unanimous)
 - b. Officer elections - proposed slate
 - i. President - Phil Kaplan
 - ii. Vice President - Amy Little
 - iii. Treasurer - Jim Lindsey
 - iv. Secretary - Dave Gorman
All officers on the slate were approved to continue serving for the next year. (Devon-1, Jon F-2, unanimous)
6. Annual Report Review
Devon reviewed the report. Phil complimented the quality of the report. There were no critiques. She said it'll be posted soon so contact her if there are any last-minute thoughts.
7. Operations updates
- a. Storefront
 - i. Reorganization Madness!
Refurbished bike sales
There are about 500 bikes currently available on the webstore!
 - ii. Winter operations
 - b. Service Department
Xail is thoroughly enjoying her expansion of duties allowing more interaction with the community.
 - c. Volunteering
 - i. At-home opportunities
Thanks to volunteers like Ed Kestin that have been preparing bikes for continued local donations.
 - ii. In-person opportunities reopened!
 - d. Collections and incoming donations
 - i. Spring boom?
The number of community collection events appears to be returning closer to a usual year as of this Spring. These are being scheduled. Costco donated their returned bikes to us, through our connection to WorldVision, which has been a tremendous boon to keep our supply for international shipments sufficiently high.
 - e. Staffing
 - i. Welcome Sarah, Production / Service Mechanic
 - ii. Cauria on communications/logistics (Community Engagement Coordinator)
 - iii. Anna on Communications (still our Community Programs Manager)
 - iv. Devon our Communications Consultant
8. Tik Tok Task Force
Mike is interested in producing short videos for posting on Tik Tok. The Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam is a good example for people to check out.
9. International Donation Updates
- a. CESTA - Schwinn project through 2021
We heard from Jesus at our last meeting. We're planning to send three shipments to them in 2021, one is already on its way and included 150 bikes from the WB basement.

- b. VBP Sierra Leone
Our next shipment will be to them. We have enough bikes to do this, we're just waiting until after the extreme cold passes.
 - c. 2021 shipping estimates
We sent out 11 containers last year. Anticipating 14 or 15 in 2021.
10. Cycle of Power/Peace
- a. North Lawndale CCC GROWSS subcommittee and Holiday Kids' Bike Giveaway – Recap – a success!
 - b. North Lawndale Cycling Champions (NLCC), United Way of Chicago support
 - i. CC repeats on the West and South West side
We assisted them to conduct four workshops last year. Youth received a bike, lock, helmet and tools. The program will run again with the Gage Park LatinX Council and the Garfield Park Community Council starting February 22nd.
 - c. Upcoming Rides / donations - things to look forward to
 - i. Biking out Negativity - May 22nd
 - ii. Juneteenth (6/19) Roll N Peace 7
 - iii. Street Love (BON Equiticity) - August 21st
 - iv. Roll N Peace 8 - September 17th
11. Brandon's & Kitchen Crew Updates
- a. Brandon's reorganization
Thanks to the Berniers for their generous donation that has allowed Brandon's Shop to be expanded to accommodate more volunteers, and more safely.
 - b. Volunteer schedule
Currently up to three mechanics at the stands plus one organizing parts.
12. Other Committee Updates
13. Additional Business
Trevor thanked Ed Hanlon for his efforts to collect dozens of used helmets. Some bike clubs have questioned the safety of sending used helmets but Trevor explained that studies have shown no measurable decrease in performance with time. Dave added that Bikes for Lesotho and our other overseas partners are very grateful for helmets since the alternative is that people will ride with no protection.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 PM. (Trevor-1, Anna-2)