



Working Bikes General Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2023; 6:30-8:00 PM

1. Call to order (following potluck at 6:00) - 6:30
 - a. Introductions/In attendance *Trevor Clarke, Amy Little, Mark Dabrowski, Wren Amundson, Aaron Brown, Francisco Rubio, Cauria Duarte, Mikey Young, Dave Gorman, Ellen Gibbon, Derek Villanueva, Colette Balas, Devon Snyder, Josh Korby, Clark McCall, Derek Brown, LaShawn "China" Fonza, Jesus Mariela*
2. Approval of February 1, 2023 meeting minutes - 6:40 *Approved as presented (Mark-1, Ellen-2, unanimous)*
3. Community Partner Presentation; Derek Brown, Boxing Out Negativity - 6:45 *Derek and Shaina discussed how biking has become as important to their program as boxing. Derek started mentoring kids in 2009 through boxing to show them attention and love. There are now over 400 kids registered! All WB members are invited to participate in the Street Love Ride on May 20th. Derek and Shaina thanked all WB volunteers and employees that make their work possible, and we're equally grateful for them!*
4. International Partner Update; Jesus Mariela, CESTA, El Salvador - 7:00 *Jesus explained that CESTA is involved in various program areas in addition to biking, including agriculture, jobs creation, and transportation planning. Trevor visited in 2014, and Xail visited in 2021. They've been involved in sponsoring over 50 bike shops since 2017! They also recently helped encourage the City of San Salvador to install bike lanes and to reduce the tax rate for used and new bike imports. They sponsor 25 education centers. In 2022, they received four containers from WB and one from Bikes for the World. The bikes are either raffled as prizes, shared with their sponsored shops, or kept for their own use and sale. They recently participated in a big, friendly competition between nonprofits, and won in the environmental category. Thanks to Cauria for volunteering to translate!*
5. Strategic Plan Work Underway! - 7:15 *Each of these committees will be asked to provide a report at future meetings on progress made on their Strategic Plan responsibilities.*
 - a. Volunteer Community – Grow and Support our Volunteer Community *Save 8/26 for the Brandon's 10-yr anniversary party.*
 - b. Building Committee – Improve Functionality of our Building
 - c. Executive Committee – Advance our leadership – local, national, global
 - d. Communications Committee – Improve our Communications and Storytelling *This committee will include marketing as well as communications.*
 - e. Equity Committee (laying the groundwork with training) – Institutionalize our commitment to equity and social/racial justice *A self-paced DEI program will begin soon, including about 20 staff and board members. The Safer Space policy has been drafted, and copies were distributed for final comments before upcoming approval by the Board.*
6. Operations Updates - 7:45
 - a. Storefront / Service *Earth Day (4/22) will bring a change in shop hours. Xail has moved on and Alan has retired.*

- b. *Production Francisco and Haki are working in production after going through the Community Mechanics program, Gary Hurst rejoined the team after last building bikes at WB in 2017. Others upstairs are Wren, Maxx, Aaron, John, Fil and Jay Pee.*
 - c. *Collections / Shipping Earth Day-related collections are coming up soon. Need more bikes to be able to fill the shipment to Lesotho next week.*
 - d. *Bike Chicago Alex is continuing to lead the efforts for this program, coordinating the building of bikes between West Town Bikes, Bikes N Roses, and Working Bikes, as well as accessory procurement and bike and accessory distribution.*
7. *Additional Business - 7:55 Upcoming dates to save: our 24th Anniversary on 10/7/23, Big Marsh Afterglow Ride on 5/27, Board Member Orientation on 4/6, Community Bike Mechanics Graduation on 4/7, and Karim's visit from Sierra Leone over May 14-28.*
- a. *READI Chicago is ready! This program that aims to address trauma and provide opportunities for men most likely to experience gun violence is proceeding with work experience that WB is providing. A group of five men and one crew chief (a staff member of a local nonprofit with experience in job training) will be spending 20 hours/week to learn mechanics skills.*
8. *Adjourn - 8:00 We adjourned at 8:10 (Colette-1, Wren-2)*