

MVBC Board Meeting Monday, January 25, 2010

Present: Alan Acock, Susan Christie, Brian Cripe, Teddi Crotti, Ray Gilden, Alan Haight, Bruce Martin, Matt Mathews, Tom Sauret, Shirley Schoberg, Leon Ungier, Patti Watkins

Guests: Tricia Martin, Jo Morgan, Jerry Rooney, Ethan Wilson

Introductions of New Board Members

Tom Sauret is beginning as new Membership Director; Patti Watkins is beginning as new Secretary; Teddi Crotti and Alan Haight are beginning as new Members at Large

Reports

Vice-president: Susan reports that the position for vice president is still open and that she continues to search for someone to fill it. She indicated that the main duty of this position is to arrange programs for the general meetings and to lead these meetings, although she indicated that the President could do the latter. Until a new Vice President is found, Susan suggests that the Members at Large collaborate on planning programs for the general meetings. For February's general meeting, she offered to do a program herself, along with Matt, on bicycling in Great Britain or a program on multimodal bike touring. The three Members at Large agreed to participate in planning another event for the March general meeting.

Treasurer: Bruce reported on transactions since November 2009. He indicates that, although expenditures are up, money from the 2009 Loop Tour has yet to be added to the accounts. He reports that the savings balance is \$4,199.19 and the checking balance is \$1,063.36, showing total assets of \$5262.55

Secretary: No report.

Publicity: Jerry Rooney indicates that notices of the upcoming rides have become more prominent in the newspaper.

Advocacy: No report as Walt Prichard has vacated this position with no imminent replacement.

President: Matt expressed a need to replace Walt in the advocacy position. Matt also reported that he had submitted the MVBC newsletter to the League of American Bicyclists contest for the best bike club newsletter—results are pending.

Membership: As Shirley had been out of town and Tom is still transitioning into the position, exact memberships numbers were not available at the meeting; however, Shirley estimates the current total membership to be approximately 305. Shirley had made graphs of the monthly membership over the past two years which she shared with the group. Membership fluctuates by month, with an increase around Loop Tour, but has generally been about 300 across this time period.

Newsletter: No report.

Mileage report: Alan reports that there were 42 riders total between the 9am and 10am rides on Saturday, January 23rd, a remarkable number for a January ride. Alan also reports a change in the time frame during which annual mileage will be tracked, i.e. mileage totals will now be based on the period from November through October.

Member at Large: Ray raised the question of whether the club's Google Groups site should be made transparent to all members. Currently, it is closed to all except the board members. Discussion ensued about placing a link to Google Groups on the MVBC website after it was determined that these sites would not duplicate each other in that Google Groups is a means for members to converse with each other while this is not the purpose of the club website. Shirley, expressed concern about making the membership list, currently available on Google Groups, available to everyone rather than keeping this information restricted to the board members. Ray agreed to assess the possibility of keeping some information in Google Groups blocked from the general membership if they were to be allowed access to this site.

Ride Captain: No report

Director at Large: No report.

Webmaster: Brian reports that he has set up the website with its own photo site (at a cost of \$60 per year) so that members may now place photos on the site themselves rather than needing to send these to Brian.

Old Business

First Aid Kits: Tricia reports that the assessment of the existing first aid kits revealed that much of the iodine and medicines contained therein were outdated. Based on her comparison shopping investigation, she estimates that the price to replenish these kits would exceed \$500. Discussion ensued around the issue of whether the existing kits contained items that were seldom used (e.g. ace bandages, dressings, steri-strips) and if replacing these with kits with simpler kits that contained more frequently used supplies (e.g. antiseptic wipes, bandaids, insect sting relief) might be more fruitful. Tricia indicates that Costco sells such kits at the most reasonable prices she had found. A motion to replace the existing kits with 12 new kits from Costco was raised and subsequently passed by the board members. Other issues surrounding first aid were discussed including concerns about liability if members were to administer prescription medications to impaired riders. The group also suggested that ride leaders regularly carry a first aid kit and that riders with Red Cross training identify themselves on rides. Another suggestion involved using MVBC funds to pay for individuals to become Red Cross certified. Another involved informing members to keep an easily identifiable emergency contact number on their cell phones, perhaps

listed as ICE (In Case of Emergency). A final suggestion was that information about where to purchase inexpensive first aid kits be included in the newsletter.

BikeU/OSU Bike Safety and Helmet Campaign: As discussed in the November meeting, Dr. Ethan Wilson, ER physician at Good Samaritan Hospital in Corvallis was invited to discuss his BikeU campaign to promote bicycle safety and helmet use among OSU students. He cites a survey of helmet use on campus that revealed over 94% of OSU students do not use helmets. These figures, along with his experience treating victims of bicycle accidents in the ER, prompted him to become involved with OSU students in a university-sanctioned organization that they have named BikeU. BikeU seeks to promote helmet use as well as general bicycle safety. It also seeks to increase the number of covered bicycle parking spaces on the OSU campus. Ethan is seeking funding from MVBC ranging from \$500 to \$6000 to support a range of campaign ideas which he described. These include holding events on the OSU campus with free food, music, prize giveaways, and discounted bicycle gear. Ethan also described ideas to produce stickers with slogans such as “Got Helmet?,” “Helmet Hair is Cool!,” and “Keep Your Head in the Books, Not on the Pavement!” Ethan stated that BikeU would seek to connect with the bicycle program sponsored by the Association of Students at OSU (ASOSU) which currently has done no work with respect to bicycle safety. It was suggested that he also connect with the OSU Alternative Transportation committee. Suggestions for discounts on bike helmets included Peak Sports as well as a Tacoma-based organization, Helmets-Are-Us. While the MVBC will consider donation of funds to this organization, another potential source of support was suggested, i.e. The Benton County Foundation to which the Jensen family donates money in honor of their daughter, Robin, who was killed in a 2002 car-bicycle accident. Apart from soliciting funds from MVBC, Ethan would also like to include members as part of an advisory committee for BikeU, with a suggestion that the newsletter publish an article on BikeU that makes a call for volunteers.

New Business

Ride of Silence: Jerry Rooney reports that the 7th annual Ride of Silence will be held on Wednesday, May 19th at Osbourne Aquatic Center, starting at 6:30pm with announcements and the ride itself beginning promptly at 7pm. Jerry will lead the 6-7 mile ride and indicates that participants must wear helmets. Efforts are underway to have a banner advertising the ride posted across Harrison and 4th and 5th Streets, but Jerry requests that members also spread word of this event among their friends and relatives. He also suggests that people visit the official website: <http://www.rideofsilence.org/main.php>

New Membership Form in Newsletter: Shirley proposes having the membership sign-up form in the newsletter as well as on the website because a significant number of people continue to send dues to her without the completed form. Thus, she has printed the form out herself and sent it to these people in order to get them to complete the liability waiver. The sign-up form had previously been included in the newsletter, but was removed when it grew lengthier due to the inclusion of the legal language. One suggestion was that the membership sign-up form appears in the newsletter at least every other month if not monthly. Regarding the placement of the sign-up form on the website, Shirley suggests that the link be moved to nearer the top of the “Join” page

so viewers need not scroll down the page to find it. She also suggested including the link on right hand side of the Homepage as well. The question was raised as to whether the sign-up form could include the legal information so that prospective members need not complete two separate forms. It was decided to ask Lloyd about the history of the form in the newsletter and solicit his input into this issue.

Community Bicycle Education: Jo Morgan, the new Transportation Program Specialist for the city visited to speak of developing the educational aspects of bike and pedestrian issues. Education classes have been provided for 5th graders and the diversion class led by Jerry Rooney exists, but Jo would like to springboard off of these to capture everyone in the community who needs bicycle education. Another goal is to see the number of bicyclists increase, connecting with people who are currently not riding and could use inspiration. Along these lines, Dan Hereford will have a class listed in the Corvallis Parks and Recreation activity guide geared toward adults thinking of riding but needing assistance in getting started. Jo would also like to have one class annually for people who need a refresher and for professionals who work with bicycle issues to get everyone in one room and on the same page with current bicycle law. She also posed creating a DVD that goes to people at the DMV about driving safely around bikes as well as a DVD targeting OSU students. Jerry Rooney indicated that at present, anyone who wants to take a free bicycle safety class can do so by coming to the diversion class held the third Thursday of each month at 7pm at the Corvallis library.

Ride the Heart of the Valley Bike Ride: As communicated by MVBC club member, Karen Bird, this charity event put on by the students and staff at the Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine will occur on Saturday, April 24, 2010. All funds raised by the \$30 registration fee will be split between the OSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital and Benton County Health Services for the purpose of funding healthcare for low-income members of the Corvallis community, as well as their pets. Additionally, this ride is a One Health event with emphasis on Obesity Awareness. A 30 mile loop ride begins at 9:30 am and a 12 mile loop ride begins at 11:00 am. Both rides start at the Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Magruder Hall. A link to information about this event is posted on the MVBC website:
<http://www.mvbc.com/other/RideTheHeartOfTheValley.pdf>

Regular Events List:

Midge Cramer Ride-Usually occurs in April and headed by Ann Asbell who has yet to be consulted regarding the 2010 event.

Rolling Feast-Usually occurs in May and requires three locations for breakfast, lunch, and dessert. Suggestions to contact Becky & Charlie Steinmetz to assess their participation as well as Steven Stapleton who usually does a chili cook out for the lunch stop at the fire station. It was suggested that someone call Steve right away to ascertain his participation and to reserve the fire station. Home locations would then be needed for breakfast and dessert.

Loop Tour-Dates for 2010 are: **Loop Tour I:** June 19 - 27 and **Loop Tour II:** July 24 - Aug 1
Susan reports that plans are coming along, with the committee working out policy issues including how to prioritize applications. This year's location is Idaho and Montana, starting and ending in Coeur D'Alene, ID. Susan will provide more specific information at the next meeting.

Covered Bridge Ride-August 8, 2010

Crater Lake Ride-August 28 -29, 2010

Fall Festival Bicycle Booth-September 25-26 <http://corvallisfallfestival.org/>

Next Board Meeting: Monday, February 22nd, 2010.