

Prairie Cycle Club
Board meeting minutes from 11/14/2012

Present: Lorrie Pearson, Robert Morris, Michael Fuerst, John Prince and Richard Brannon.

Absent: Angela Holcomb

Agenda/Discussions:

Interest in serving on Board: Lorrie reported that there was virtually no interest from any club member to serve on the Board. She had sent out an e-mail for nominations, but there were no replies. Lorrie asked that all Board members ask people directly to serve on the Board. The open positions are President, Treasurer and Secretary. Another e-mail will be sent asking for people to “step up” and become a board member.

Annual Meeting/Dinner Party: The annual meeting will be held at the Great Impasta Restaurant on December 2nd and will start at 5:00 PM. The meeting will be first along with drinks. After the meeting is finished dinner will be served. It is estimated that the total cost for each attendee will be \$20.00. The Club will pay \$10.00 towards this and each guest \$10.00. Soft drinks will be free but alcoholic beverages must be purchased.

Signmeup.com: Sign me up is charging 16.5% of our total credit card income. And while the Board considers this high, it was decided to stay with them because other credit card sites charge similar amounts. We have also had no problems in getting paid from them. Furthermore Signmeup is very easy to speak with and always call back when a message is left. Several direct phone numbers and some of the managers’ full names are also known. Finally, we have their actual address in Chicago if anything should really go wrong.

Darwin Ride: The Darwin ride/potluck will be held around the middle of January, 2013. John will check with Anne to see if she wants to host it. If not he says he can host the event again like last year.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is the annual Club meeting on December 2nd at the Great Impasta.

Prairie Cycle Club
Minutes from 10/17/2012 Board Meeting

Present: Lorrie Pearson, Michael Fuerst, John Prince, Robert Morris, Angela Holcomb and Richard Brannon **Absent:** No One

Agenda/ Discussions:

Elections: The following Board positions are up for election: President, Treasurer, Secretary, Publicity and Activities Coordinator. The terms of President and Treasurer have a 3 year limit. There are no term limits for the other positions. Lorrie wants to know who is interested in remaining on the Board . Once she knows this, she will send an e-mail to the entire Club asking people to either nominate someone for an available position or nominate themselves.

Annual Meeting/Party: The event will once again be held at the Great Impasta Restaurant in Lincoln Square. John is handling the negotiations. The Meeting is tentatively scheduled for the evening of 12/02/2012. Prices will be similar to last year.

Ride Director for CUAP: John thinks another Board position should be created for this task. This person will be in charge of putting the entire CUAP together. (Of course he/she will have some help from current Board members.)

Signmeup.com: Angela thinks there might be a problem with Signmeup transferring money to us in a timely manner. She will check once more and notify Richard if there are any problems whatsoever.

Happy Hour: Happy hour “get togethers” will resume at Radio Maria’s starting 11/09/2012. John will once again this year call before each party to reserve a table. An e-mail will be sent to the entire Club around the first of November.

Next Meeting: The next Board meeting is scheduled for 11/14/2012 at Atlanta Bread at 5:30 PM Richard will call to reserve the back room. As usual any Club member is invited to attend. New thoughts and comments are always welcome.

Prairie Cycle Club
September 12, 2012 Board minutes

Attending: Michael Fuerst, Angela Holcomb, Bob Morris, Lorrie Pearson, John Prince

Meeting called to order at 5:30PM.

July, 2012 meeting minutes called for approval. All "aye."

As required by Article IV Section 3 of the PCC bylaws, the board voted that memberships sold at 2012 CUAP (before September 1st) will be for 2013 as well.

Lorrie suggested that the "end of season ride" be reconfigured as a "member appreciation ride." This was agreed to, as well as an earlier date that would avoid conflict with October out-of-the-area rides. This member appreciation ride will be on Sunday September 23rd, starting from the Meadowbrook Park parking lot and going out to a club-provided lunch of sandwiches at the Walnut Point Pavilion at Homer Lake Park.

A "breast cancer awareness" ride organized by Peter Davis will be held on October 13-14, with the first day offering a 25 mile ride, and the second a century ride. The Board will solicit volunteers for both days.

The date for the club's annual meeting was set tentatively for December 4th. Lorrie will review the bylaws for any board positions needing replacement. John will determine the availability of the Great Impasta restaurant for that date.

Bob Morris will ascertain the dates of the 2013 Sweet Corn Festival and attempt to reserve the Crystal Lake Park pavilion for the club's 2013 C-U Across the Prairie ride.

Comments from the 2012 CUAP ride were reviewed. These included the need to mark the ride start more clearly; also that the ride cue sheet for the East ride ended at the Sweet Corn Festival without indicating the pathway back to the Crystal Lake Park pavilion. It was remarked that we had less leftover food from CUAP compared with last year. Lorrie indicated she will update the food list based on the experience. Einstein Bros. Bagels said they are willing to provide bagels for next year's ride. We will ask them to provide cream cheese. Finally, at next year's CUAP we might want to have a short questionnaire/suggestion form for returning riders to complete.

It was generally agreed that a monthly cocktail party be continued. Lorrie suggested a migration to the newly opened tequila bar located at the former Carmon's restaurant.

Next meeting date was set for October 17th, with the agenda including a list of board positions needing to be filled and other particulars of the annual meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Morris

Prairie Cycle Club
Minutes from Board meeting of July 18, 2012

Present: Lorrie Pearson, Angela Holcomb, Michael Fuerst, John Prince, Robert Morris and Richard Brannon
Absent: No one

Agenda: The whole meeting was devoted to CUAP which will be held August 25, 2012

Publicity: We need a brochure that is “eye catching”. John and Lorrie will work take care of this. The brochure, which will include a registration form, will be distributed to the local bike shops, the library, the recreation centers, some athletic clubs, etc. We want the brochures placed where sports minded people tend to gather.

Michael Fuerst will e-mail the CUAP announcement to all the other bike clubs in the area and to Champaign/Urbana Bikes as well. He will also see if we can put the announcement on the City of Urbana web site.

Richard Brannon will e-mail the announcement to all those who used the on-line registration for the last three years, as well as those who rode the Tour de Champaign. He will also transmit it to both Prairie Cycle Club members and to the Second Wind Running Club members.

Sponsors: Tentative sponsors include Ford City, Schnuck’s Grocery, Carle Hospital, Durst Cycle, Champaign Cycle, Bikeworks, Strawberry Fields and Einstein Bros Bagels.

Rest stops: There will be two rest stops. One will be at St Joseph and the other at the Fisher Cemetery.

Day of ride food: PCC will only serve breakfast, including coffee, tea and drinks.

Ride Leader: Lorrie will lead the 10 mile town tour and hopes to have Sue Jones as a sweep.

Port-a-Potty: Richard will contact Midwest Potty House to arrange for a toilet at the Fisher Cemetery.

Road Markings: Robert will be involved in getting the route marked.

Cue sheets: Lorrie is in charge of getting these printed up.

Volunteers: A call will be put out for people to help with the ride: Things such as registration, handing out maps and cue sheets the day of the ride; people to “man” the two rest stops, etc. Lorrie will be in charge of this. Board members will be expected to help out.

Supplies needed: Richard will contact Anne Robin to see if we can once again borrow her coffee urn, tables and coolers. Bob Morris also has supplies at his house.

Insurance: Angela Holcomb will get insurance for the event.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will probably be at Bob Morris’s house to go over what supplies he has and what still needs to be bought. This date is still to be determined. There maybe an earlier meeting to ensure all the above tasks are being completed.

Prairie Cycle Club
Minutes from Board Meeting of May 16, 2012

Attending: Michael Fuerst, John Prince, Robert Morris and Richard Brannon
Absent: Lorrie Pearson and Angela Holcomb

Agenda/Discussions:

CUAP: Started preliminary discussions concerning CUAP. The ride will be Saturday, August 25, 2012, and leave from Crystal Lake. The plan is to have two routes as well as an in town ride. One route will be longer than the other and will have a rest stop. The other route will be shorter, and it has not been determined yet weather this shorter route will have a rest stop. As far as food is concerned, we will not be serving a meal as in past years. The main source of food will be the Sweet Corn Festival and the ride will go right through it. Riders can lock their bikes in the Urbana parking garage. (We may or may not have a volunteer watch the bikes.) Because we won't be supplying a meal, the cost of the ride will be \$5.00 less than last year. We will however supply food and drink for the rest stop(s) and at the start of the ride. As for resources, Bob thinks we should get both monetary donations and perhaps a business to sponsor a rest stop.

Tour de Champaign County: What we learned from this Ride is that we should have had a rest stop at Homer Lake. Also, as it turned out, it was a great idea to have Lorrie lead the bikers on the in-town route. This is something we need to consider for CUAP because it worked so well.

Letter of Support: The City of Champaign is applying for a grant to widen the Windsor I-57 over pass. The idea here is to put wider lanes and sidewalks on the bridge. This overpass can be very troublesome to both walkers and bikers. Lorrie Pearson wrote a letter to the Mayor in order to show that the Prairie Cycle Club definitely supports this work. The letter was signed by all the Board Members in attendance and Michael Fuerst e-mailed it to the City. He also got an acknowledgement that it was received. A copy of this letter is on the web site.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held June 20, 2012 at 5:30 Pm at Atlanta Bread on Neil Street. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Prairie Cycle Club
Minutes from April 18, 2012 Board Meeting

Attending: Lorrie Pearson, Robert Morris, Angela Holcomb, John Prince, Michael Fuerst and Richard Brannon

Absent: Nobody

Agenda/ discussions:

Tour de Champaign County: (May 5, 2012) Lorrie has now designed the 10 mile family route. Michael will update the web site to advertise the ride. Lorrie will make a link from the web site to signmeup.com. John will print up maps for the routes. Richard will make a document and advertise for volunteers. Angela and/or lorrie will pick up the donated food and shop for snacks and drink items as well. Bob will check at his house to see what supplies are available. Things such as paint for marking the route, large water bottles, signs for the routes, etc. are needed. John will work on getting two SAG vehicles. Bob will place an advertisement for the ride on Mike Bentley's web site.

Bike to work day: (Tuesday, May 1st, 7 to 10 AM) John will make some flyers and brochures that will be distributed at every bike check-in station. Several hundred people have already registered and will be riding. The brochures will be about the Club and the flyers will advertise the Tour. Some of the flyers will be given to the various bike shops as well.

Signs: Our signs are getting old and need to be replaced. Michael will research where we can purchase new signs. We want the color to be black and white in order to make them more visible. Also we want the new signs to a little more robust than the current ones. The present signs do not stay in the ground very well. They are hard to push down and frequently "blow over" by wind. \$300 was authorized to buy new signs. The signs should last for several years.

Member involvement: Lorrie wants the Board members to recruit new people to be more active in the Club and perhaps serve on the Board. The Board members will start speaking about this subject on the rides to see who might be interested. People who want to do this will not be that hard to find.

Next meeting: The next Board meeting will be on May 16, 2012 at 5:30 PM at Atlanta Bread. All Club Members are invited to attend.

Prairie Cycle Club
Minutes from March 14, 2012 Board Meeting

Present: Lorrie Pearson, Richard Brannon, Michael Fuerst, Angela Holcomb, Robert Morris
John Prince

Absent: No one

Agenda/Discussions

Preseason Party: The Party is all set for March 27th from 6 to 8 at Jupiter's at the crossing. Space has been reserved for the Club.

Ride Leaders: The ride leaders are all in place for another season. The same people who led last year will do so this year. Ride Leaders receive a free Club membership but must complete and sign the membership form.

Rides: Rides will start the week of April 15th. Bob is going to put the ride schedule in the News-Gazette.

Tour de Champaign County: (May 5, 2012) The ride will leave from 1st St and St Mary's Road in Champaign. This is kitty corner from Houlihan's. There will be two approximate 32 mile routes and an in town tour of about 10 miles. Sign up will either be on line or day of the ride. The Ride will start at 8:00 AM. The Club will supply some food. John is getting a brochure for the ride printed and it will be advertised on the web site as well.

CUAP: CUAP is scheduled for August 25th. The ride will leave from Crystal Lake Park pavilion. Bob has already reserved the outdoor structure for the event. Bob will start looking for sponsors. John wants to see more goods and services donated rather than just money.

Signmeup.com: This is the web site we will be using for on-line sign ups. Richard has been designing the form and it is almost finished. Board members will review the sign up sheet before it is activated.

Newsletter: The decision was made to stop the newsletter and just put everything on the website. Anyone who paid for a copy to be mailed to them will get a refund. An announcement will be made on the web site that the newsletter is being discontinued.

Facebook: We will begin using Facebook more and more to relate information. There will be some more pictures posted as well as our Logo being placed on site.

Moving the database: Richard will work with Michael in order to move the membership roster from his own personal computer to an on-line site. This way all Board Members will have access to it and can make any necessary changes.

Bike to work day: Bike to work day is May 5th. John is getting up to date brochures to place at all the ride stations. Perhaps we will get a few new members out of this endeavor. Volunteers will be needed to staff the stations.

Happy hour: The next Happy hour is scheduled for April 15th starting at 5:30 PM at Radio Maria's. John will send out an e-mail to everyone a week or so before the event.

Next meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 18th at Atlanta Bread at 5:30 PM. All club members are invited to attend.

Prairie Cycle Club
Minutes from February 15, 2012 Board Meeting

Attending: Lorrie Pearson, Angela Holcomb, John Prince, Robert Morris and Richard Brannon
Absent: Michael Fuerst

Agenda/Discussions:

Club Membership Records: Richard Brannon brought up that the entire membership data for the last three years is on his computer at home and nowhere else. This is not a good situation for two reasons. (1) If something should happen to Richard it would be difficult at best for any Board Member to gain access to these records. (2) Since all records are on an Excel spread sheet for each year, every time a member renews for another term most of the same information on the individual must be reentered year after year. Lorrie is going to work with Richard on using another program so that all Board Members will have ready access to the records and the same data will not always have to be re-entered. The sign-me-up.com website used for those both joining and renewing a credit card, as well as for one day events like CUAP, is assessable to the Board Members.

Rides: There is going to be a one day bike ride at the Research Park on May 5, 2012. The name of the ride will be "Tour of Champaign County". The ride will be held in conjunction with the Champaign criterion bike races. Mark Swartzendruber is the person organizing the criterion and this is his third year of doing so. Lorrie met with Mark a few days ago and made some notes concerning the bike ride. (The Criterion is being put together by Mark alone, and PCC will have no involvement in this.) The idea for the rides (a 50K, a 100K and a family ride) is to keep the cost low -\$10.00 for early sign up, \$15.00 the day of the event- so more people will attend. There will be little if any food provided and the rest stops will be at Casey's. The only expenses for PCC will be insurance, maybe some sort of ride refreshments, paint and maps. Mark will do the advertising, get the majority of the volunteers, and hire an outfit called Fluid Events to bring in additional supplies. For his efforts Mark wants a 50/50 split of the proceeds after all expenses have been paid. Angela will check on insurance but also thinks we should have a 60/40 split. This is still up for discussion. John will design both the 50K and 100K routes after he knows the course for the Criterion. Lorrie will plan the family ride. There will also be a mass start at 8:00 AM for both the 50 and 100k riders.

CUAP: The ride is being moved till August 25th, in order to have the event the first weekend the students have returned to the University of Illinois. This date is also the weekend of the Sweet Corn Festival in Urbana, and the hope is to draw people from both the school and the festival. Because of the above the ride will start and end at Crystal Lake Park in Urbana, which is close to both the school and the festival. We would rent the outside pavilion at the park, and Bob is going to check on the cost. In order to keep expenses down there will be a minimum of food and rest stops. It is thought that riders will eat at the festival after the ride. We will provide water, Gatorade and perhaps a few cookies. More planning will go into this over the next few months.

Fritz Ride: Since the ride is already planned, PCC will have no involvement in organizing it. Members, however, are encouraged to do the ride. The event is scheduled for Sunday, October 7, 2012.

Pre-Season Party: The bicycle season kick off party is scheduled for Tuesday March 27th at Jupiter's at the Crossing (Village Green shopping center). The party will start at 6:00 PM. Bob is going to contact Jupiter's and inquire about reserving space. The Club will pay for pizza and soft drinks. Attendees will purchase their own beer and wine. Membership forms will be available for both renewal and first time joiners.

Happy Hour: The next happy hour will be Friday, March 2nd at Radio Maria's from 5:00 PM till? All members are invited to attend.

Advocacy: Bike to work day (May 1, 2012), run by Champaign County Bikes, has asked for a donation. The Club decided to give \$250.00. The benefit of our bequest is that our logo and membership forms will be placed at all the bike check-in stations in the greater Champaign area. The purpose of this event is to encourage more people to either bike or ride the bus to work, rather than drive. The Club supports this and perhaps we will get some new members from this endeavor.

Next Meeting: The next Board Meeting will be held on March 14th at 5:30 PM at Atlanta Bread on Neil Street in Champaign. All members are invited.

Prairie Cycle Club
Minutes from January 19, 2012 Board Meeting

Present: Lorrie Pearson, Angela Holcomb, Robert Morris, John Prince, Michael Fuerst and Richard Brannon

Absent: None

Agenda/Discussions:

Website transfer approval: The volunteer who had been hosting PCC'S web site requested the Board assume this responsibility. To accomplish this, the Board approved the transfer of the domain name, prairiecycleclub.org, to the web hosting service Startlogic.com. The Club will now pay Startlogic and Wordpress to keep our name registered and to host our site.

ACTIVITIES:

Gran Fondu: The Gran Fondu is a pot luck to be held on February 12, 2012, at 12:30 pm at the home of John Prince. The Gran Fondu replaces the Darwin Ride. John will send out an e-vite to all Club members. Members will be encouraged to bring food and drink, but must supply their own liquor.

Membership Kick-off Party: The "kick-off party" will be held in either late March or early April. It will be on a week day and begin at approximately 6:00 PM. The event will take place at either Jupiter's at the Crossing or one of the Monical's Pizza locations. Bob Morris will check out both pricing and space availability. The date and location will be finalized at the next meeting.

Happy Hour: Happy Hour will begin again on February 3, 2012. John Prince will check out various locations in downtown Champaign for the best space and food. The get-together will run from 5:00 PM till? The event will be announced in the newsletter and an e-vite will be sent as well.

PUBLICITY:

Advertisement in News-Gazette: Robert will run ads in the local newspaper to advise the community of our fundraising bicycle rides this year.

TREASURER:

End of year report: Angela will prepare an end of year financial report for the Board. The report will be e-mailed to Board members upon completion.

RIDES:

Bike to work day: This event is scheduled for Tuesday, May 1, 2012. Again this year bike stations will be set up in various locations in both Champaign and Urbana for the riders to check in. Goodies and brochures will once more be provided. Volunteers will be needed to help run this endeavor.

Ride in conjunction with bike race: There will again be bike races this year in the greater Champaign area. The Director of the race, Mark Swartzendruber, would like the Club to have a "paid" bicycle ride combined with the races. The distances will probably be up to 100 kilometers in length, and there will be a family ride as well.

John will speak to Mark about the best location for start of this ride. Once the location of the races is known it will make the planning much easier. Since Mark is essentially putting all this together the idea is that he will get half the proceeds from our ride. Volunteers will be needed to make this new event a success. Plans and cost will be finalized in the near future.

Combine CUAP with the Ride to the Depot, also known as the Fritz Miericke Memorial Ride. The thought here is that the area cannot support two rides over virtually the same terrain that are held within a month of each other. Having just one ride will probably draw more people than having two separate fund raisers. Nothing is really planned as yet. Right now this is just an idea worth pursuing. John Prince will speak to Peter Davis at Champaign Cycle before anything is done.

Next Meeting: The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15th at Atlanta Bread Company, 1905 South Neil, Champaign at 5:30 PM. Richard Brannon will ensure a room is reserved. All Club members are invited.