

Report On Bike Advocacy – Tom Lex

1. Club agreed to continue supporting PCC with a \$500 donation. PCC continues lobbying the SC Senate to pass the the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Act. One key element of this bill will be increasing the penalties for motor vehicle operators who injure or kill cyclists. PCC needs financial support from all SC cyclists to continue pushing SC to become more bicycle friendly.
2. On the local level, the Aiken County Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) in collaboration with Greater Aiken Integrated Trails (GAIT) is recommending establishment of a designated bicycle route connecting Aiken with the North Augusta Greenway. This route would also include connection with USCA, Aiken Tech, Langley Pond and the Palmetto Parkway path.
3. BPAC is also pushing for a road diet study to confirm the feasibility of bike lanes on Richland Ave between University Parkway and Hayne Ave.
4. BPAC is also continuing the push to have the Share the Lane markings added to Hayne Ave to replace the bike lanes City Council removed.
5. Everyone is encouraged to personally make contact with their City Council member and ask for their support for streets with bike lanes or Share the Lane designation to make Aiken more bicycle friendly

Community Involvement

Earth day Ride

Club has agreed to help with an Earth Day Ride on 4/23/16, volunteers will be needed to help with registration and traffic control at key Junctions; USC Aiken students will be approached to help with this.

Club members are asked to help lead the ride and help ensuring the ride is conducted safely.

Aiken Blue Grass Festival

The club has been approached to help organize a 25/30 mile ride and a 50 mile ride on the Saturday of the Blue Grass festival on 5/14/16, the club will provide a route and ride leaders for both rides to host out of town visitors to the festival. These will replace our regular Saturday morning ride on this date.

After the rides there will be a Parade of Cycles from Downtown to the festival site, last year there were over 300 participants. We have been asked to join in this event also.

Trinity on Laurens Cycling Without Age Program

The club has been approached by Trinity on Laurens to provide advice and individual volunteers act as drivers for a Bicycle Rickshaw program they are looking to put in place to get some out their residents

out in the fresh air and be able to enjoy the scenic avenues and highways we have in the Aiken Down Town area.

Special Olympics – Aiken to Ride

The Special Olympics /Aiken to ride century and metric century was a big success with over 200 Riders participating. Special Olympics have asked we continue to partner with them to advise on Routes and road markings

Treasurers Report – Fred Adams

Club Bank balance 1/1/16 - \$2454.98

1/1/16 - \$1798.55

Donation of \$500 to PCC was approved by vote for 2016

Club Membership dues will continue at \$20 individual and \$30 Family membership

A completed signed application will be required for all new and renewal membership to ensure we have confirmation of membership for insurance coverage purposes and also to ensure we have the current contact information for all paid members.

Membership Report

In 2015 there were 31 Individual members and 15 Family Memberships, 46 total paid memberships

We will continue to try to encourage people to take out membership to ensure we can show support for Bicycle advocacy efforts, also ensure at least a basic insurance coverage for club members participating in Club rides.

Election of Club officers

An initial proposal that the existing officers remain unchanged was replaced with the proposal that the following be elected as officers for 2016:

Robert Williams – President

Tracie Fernandez – Vice President

Fred Adams - Treasurer

This motion was seconded and approved by the meeting.

The outgoing president, Tom Lex, was thanked for his dedication and leadership over the past several years without which the Aiken Bicycle Club would not exist. His contributions and commitment To Cycling advocacy have been outstanding and his continued involvement in this area will be a great asset to the Club and Aiken community.

AOB

Definition of Roles of officers and Mission Statement for the club.

Discussion took place on this matter and it was agreed that Rob Lascola would put together a draft to be reviewed by the club officers. Posting the existing club bylaws on website would also help to answer some these questions.

Mountain Biking

As a way to capture more people interested in cycling it was agreed that the club would look at ways of including Mountain Biking Activities

Bradly Bohr agreed to be the point person and will follow up with organizing a club mountain bike activity as a starting point for this initiative.

Improving communication of Club rides

After discussion it was agreed that the officers would look at how the club website, Facebook page and e mail distributions could be used to best advantage to inform and encourage more participation for all levels of cyclist within the club. This could involve a more detailed and interactive ride calendar.

Quarterly Club Social and Meetings

It was agreed to start having a quarterly social meeting that would include time to discuss club business, activities and allow discussion of club matters throughout the year rather than a single AGM meeting.

Dates for these meetings will be agreed and posted to all members.

Monday 14th April has been suggested by the Club officers for the next Quarterly Meeting