



DRAFT

Working Bikes General Meeting Minutes

December 1st, 2021

1. Call to order - 7:15 PM
 - a. Introductions/In Attendance

Trevor Clarke called the meeting to order at 7:20. Present were Trevor Clarke, Josh Korby, Phil Kaplan, Dave Gorman, Anna Henschel, Xail Hernandez, Ed Hanlon, Angela Taylor, John Fraleigh, Ellen Gibbon, Mark Dabrowski, Jean Dabrowski, Aaron Brown, Tony Osborn, Faraz Hussain, James “Ace Mann” Paneral, Karim Kamara, Jerry McNamara, Tom Mulhern, Katherine Askew, Tanisha Jones, Oboi Reed, Nick Reetz, Dan Bielawski, Amy Little and Lee Ravenscroft.
2. Approval of August 4, 2021 minutes

The minutes were approved as presented (Xail-1, Anna-2)
3. International Partner Presentation – Karim Kamara, Village Bicycle Project, Sierra Leone

VBC is a longtime partner, and we’ve sent 4 containers to them this year. Bikes are very important to provide inexpensive transportation for students, some of whom travel 7-8 miles each way to school. Health care workers are also receiving bikes to travel to farther communities to give Covid vaccinations. One bike mechanic may support 20 people in the family with their wages. VBC is involved with hosting the Tour de Lunsar, which is the largest bike race in West Africa. We have a bike ambulance in the basement that we’ll send to them in the next shipment.
4. Local Partner Presentation – Equiticity

Oboi and Tanisha discussed their mission, and recent research. In black/brown communities, a lack of walking and biking is largely due to fear of interpersonal violence and police stops, whereas in white areas the fear is more based on vehicular threats. They are organizing walking and biking tours in neighborhoods and parks. Their planned GoHub will be a micro-mobility community center with e-bikes and scooters, with the goal of getting North Lawndale residents into a rhythm of gathering and practicing these local mobility options.
5. Operations updates
 - a. Storefront

Josh said that a hybrid of online and instore sales is planned by midwinter. The annual inventory will be done on January 3rd and/or 4th.
 - b. Service Department

Xail said that the repair stations will be labelled to aid volunteers to learn the tools for basic mechanics skills.
 - c. Collections and incoming donations

Trevor reported that pickups are going well thanks to Gabe. Phil has been and

will be driving Suze to pick up bikes as far as Fort Wayne, Madison and Milwaukee.

- d. Staffing / Interns
Josh said that high school interns Leo and Dequan have been stripping and sorting parts. Dan has been added as a new production mechanic. Fil is our new "Quality Assurance" Production Bicycle Mechanic, spot-checking quality of bike builds before they are placed for sale.
- e. Trucks and Infrastructure
Trevor reported that all trucks are running well, with some work needed on the boxer. Inside tuckpointing is planned for the service department. The new kitchen and eating area looks great, thanks largely to Ed Hanlon.
6. International Donation Updates
Phil reported that we've done 14 shipments totaling 6,300 thus far in 2021, making this a very successful year. We may be able to fit in one more.
7. Cycle of Power/Cycle of Peace
 - a. Referrals Status
Anna said that the wait period through most of the year has been less than a month, thanks to dedicated volunteers.
 - b. Upcoming Donations
 - i. Holiday Bike Donations
Anna said that 250-300 bikes are needed for the holidays. These bikes will be provided to impoverished people through our local partners, mostly on 12/18.
 - ii. Afghan Refugees
The Refugee Community Connection has become a great new partner.
8. Brandon's & Kitchen Crew Updates
 - a. Community Hub Overhaul
Xail said that the change to work in designated shifts has worked well.
 - b. Volunteer schedule
Anna said that the Tuesday night volunteer night has been well attended, but will be given a boost heading in to the new year. The bike mechanics training will start on January 4th.
 - c. BIkePOC Queer Night
Xail said that this new initiative on Thursday nights has been well attended.
9. Other Committee Updates
 - a. Annual Party Feedback
Consensus is that it was very fun and successful. Will plan to again hold a block party. The date will be 10/1/22.
10. Additional Business
Phil mentioned that Devon will have the draft annual report ready soon. Constructive comments will be welcome. He also said that the annual meeting on 2/2/22 will include the election of board members and officers. Anyone interested in being considered, please contact Phil or Trevor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15. (Trevor-1, Anna-2)