

## **Sun City Cyclists Board Meeting**

**February 25, 2021**

Meeting called to order at 4:01, February 25, 2021 with 13 total attendees.

Board attendees: Pete Marks, Jim Wright, Walt Juncker, Diane Hamilton, Greg Hughes, Walt Grabowski, David Tietz, Claire Peel, Sharon Reed, Randall Chance, Leanne Waldo

Guest attendees: Jim Wooll, Bill McMillian

Introductions and brief bios were presented by all attendees.

Minutes from December 16, 2020 were approved unanimously without comment or revision; initial motion was made by Walt Grabowski and seconded by Randall Chance.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Walt Juncker. He noted that we should hit the budget on revenue, and have no expenses so far this year.

The Membership Report was given by Dave Tietz. We have 150 resident members this year, up from 143 in 2020. Our non-resident members total 16, down from 19 in the prior year.

Discussion followed regarding the current welcome process for new members joining the club at the beginning of the year or throughout the year. It was suggested that the bike club might develop a new member "orientation" program to coincide with the new Resident orientation run by the CA. Sharon Reed volunteered to coordinate our orientation process for new members; initially this would most likely be by a zoom meeting. We need to find out when the CA new resident orientation dates are so that we can coordinate our own orientation meetings. In addition, it was proposed that we organize a group of volunteers to act as rotating riding "buddies" for new member's initial ride with the group. Jim Wright agreed to take a lead on planning & developing the buddy program. It was further suggested that a route be developed for the daily inside ride, so that new members not yet familiar with Sun City would be more at ease in joining that ride, in case they want to drop out of the route before the end of the ~20 miles and still be able to find their way home from any point along the route. Greg Hughes volunteered to create the map for the inside ride.

Discussion followed for the Yellow Bike and Bike Harvest programs, led by Bill McMillian. The club has participated in the Yellow Bike program for the last 2-3 years. In the Georgetown area, this program operates at the downtown library. There was further discussion about making the Bike Harvest a year-round program, and where the donated bikes would be stored in the interim if the program was year-round. We would need storage space for approximately 25

bikes. It was proposed that the CA could possibly provide some storage; Leanne took action and forwarded her CA contact who is in charge of facilities to inquire about some space for the club to use for bike storage.

Social Activities discussion followed, led by Claire Peel. After asking for suggestions, it was noted that the club members had participated in a 2019 survey, as to what type of social gatherings everyone would like to see. Walt Grabowski forwarded the results of the survey to Claire (with a copy to Pete) for her use in planning future events when COVID restrictions are lifted. It was proposed that initially an outdoor event may be more suitable, followed by indoor events as restrictions continue to ease.

Sharon Reed led a discussion on public relations & our Facebook group. She noted that our Facebook group was started approximately 5 years ago, mainly for the purpose of sharing photos taken during group rides. We currently have 252 members in the Facebook group, with 198 of those considered "active", those who have viewed or posted within the last 90 days. The average viewing on our posts is 149. Sharon gave updates on local road improvements and a continuing effort to develop a Rails-to-Trails route on an abandoned railway line that stretches from Georgetown to Granger. The effort has been stalled in Williamson County for some time, while the city of Georgetown has been easier to deal with concerning bicycle routes and safety proposals. Sharon continued with a discussion regarding a bike path to the new pickleball courts near North Point. While a foot path has been proposed, it has been suggested to upgrade the foot path to accommodate bicycles so that they could remain off the main streets, and also provide an alternative route for bicyclists to the CR245/RR area since upcoming extensive work on CR245 will keep that route closed to bicyclists for an extended period.

Leanne Waldo led a discussion about our Remote Ride plans. With the help of seven club members, we have developed 7 remote rides, and have plans for 4 or 5 additional rides to be developed with Steve Stevens. The plan is to get the routes and ride information uploaded to our website so that the information is easily accessible for all club members; currently we have 4 of the rides already uploaded to the website. Our goal is to have 12 remote rides that would occur every other Wednesday. Sharon suggested that we may want to include a Tuesday evening ride at COTA as part of this remote ride plan. Other suggestions for additional remote rides included riding to Dahlias in Liberty Hill, to Dales Essenhaus in Walburg, and Hell or High Water Brewing in Liberty Hill, since all of these offer outdoor dining facilities that could be utilized after the rides.

Pete Marks led a discussion about the Hill Country Ride, which continues to be pushed out as COVID restrictions are in place. It is possible the ride may be done in the fall, but more probable that this will be pushed to spring of 2022. Greg Hughes updated us on the Red Poppy festival

and ride. Greg indicated that the festival may be scheduled for October 1-3, but that the ride is separate from the festival and will probably not be held until next spring.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 with motion from Sharon and seconded by Randall Chance.

Recorded and submitted by Diane Hamilton.