

## BICYCLE ADVOCACY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

November 4, 2010  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:45 p.m., November 4, 2010 at the Oyster Bar.

**Present:** Judy Lansky, Claibanne Williamson, Tom Ezell, Don Bearden, Jim Britt, Steve Bentley, Judy McDowell, Coreen Frasier, Gordon Fisher. Guest: Norm Bermer, Brookwood Neighborhood Assn.

**Absent:** David Holsted

**Safe Routes to School:** Judy Lansky reported that the Bike Belong contract for the SRTS State Network grant will be coming up for renewal in December. At this point in time, Arkansas is in very good standing with the National Partnership and we are current on all deliverables for the grant. Judy feels that the State network can definitely serve a purpose in advancing and implementing the SRTS program in Arkansas, however she is "not exactly excited" about continuing as the network organizer through 2011. Tom said that he was on the lookout for the new contract, and would share that with the Board when we receive it. It will be a Board decision whether to continue with the grant through 2011.

**Ways & Means:** 2010 dues receipts have been very light... we have maybe a dozen dues-paid members, most others are the free "associates." 2011 dues will be payable in first of January, so we need, as a Board, to make a push to remind members of membership dues and work to boost paid memberships.

Claibanne asked about acknowledgements for donations. Don has been sending donors a receipt for tax purposes at the end of the year. He will provide Claibanne with a list of donors and amounts for the purpose of writing thank-you notes. Will also need to get some BACA-logo stationery for these notes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Currently have \$13,474.37 on account as of the meeting date, after having paid the most recent invoice for the Safe Routes grant. We are now receiving our payments from Bikes Belong via electronic funds transfer, and it is going very smoothly. The Marilyn Fulper Memorial Fund currently stands at \$1,272.00.

Judy asked about electronic payments through the web site. Don and Wendy Ross (our new webmaster) will be working with Greg at ArkansasWeb to get a PayPal payment button installed on the BACA web site, linked to the Donations page & button.

Tom attended a budgeting webinar this past week hosted by the League of American Bicyclists, and reported that it was an excellent overview of financial management and budgeting for bike clubs and small non-profits. One idea he got from the webinar was some club management software, "Wild Apricot," that would allow for dues payments, donations, and event registrations to be paid online, as well as keeping the club's financial management on-line, secure, and available to authorized members. Tom will research this option and report back to the Board.

**Close The Loop:** Tour de Rock training rides for the 2011 event will begin on March 19, 2011, and continue over a 3-month period, with the TDR event occurring on June 11, 2011. BACA will sponsor the first training ride, in memory of Marilyn Fulper, on March 19. Anticipated cost is \$150 for sports drinks, snacks, etc. at a rest stop along the ride route.

Steve has been working with local officials in LR and NLR to coordinate a recurring "Close The Loop Sundays" event, where we would block off a section of street (for example, along Riverfront Drive in both LR and NLR) for bicycle and pedestrian use during set hours (for example, from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.). Want to treat this as a family-type event, extending the parks and greenspace access. Need to look at costs for police traffic control, and whether BACA would be liable for these costs.

**President's Report:** Tom reported that we still have a board vacancy for the Secretary's position, and a new vacancy was created this past week when Charlie Hight resigned his seat as an at-large director. We'll be asking for volunteers, and soliciting members to backfill these positions.

The National Bike Summit has been scheduled for March 8-10, 2011, in Washington, DC. Tom & Coreen will be serving as state coordinators again this year for Arkansas delegates to the summit. BACA needs to plan ahead, do we want to send delegates again this year; if so, how many; and do we want to place a cap on reimbursement? Average cost to send someone to the Summit (registration, transportation, meals & lodging) is \$900 to \$1200.

The November elections this past week were a sharp blow to bike-friendly agendas in both the federal and state legislative bodies. Four of the six Arkansas congressional delegates will be changing, as well as the usual 1/3 of the state legislature. It will be harder to get bike-friendly bills advanced for this session, it seems at least for now.

2011 is upon us, and we need to lay out a planning budget for 2011 to ensure we have funds for what we plan to do, or at least scale what we plan to do back to what we can effectively pay for. We'll take this up in more detail at the December meeting.

Programs for 2011: each Board member was requested to select a month in 2011, and coordinate/schedule a program for the membership meeting that month.

Norm Berner from the Brookwood Neighborhood association spoke to the Board, seeking help and assistance to help develop trails and bike facilities in their neighborhood. Animated discussion followed, and we'll be looking to see how the organization can assist in improving bike-friendly facilities on a neighborhood-by-neighborhood basis.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.