

# Notes from Bike to the Future Strategic Planning

January 27, 2007

2-5 pm – EcoCentre

## Welcome and Introductions

### Present:

Jackie Avent, Bill Spornitz, Ben Goldstein, Cory Bellhouse, Dave Elmore, Gord McGonigal, David Hubbard, Donna Wunderlich, Kevin Miller, Molly McCracken, Don English, Rob Cosco, Anders Swanson, Alain Foidart, Kim Marr, Lindsey McBain, Ken Gerrard

### Regrets:

Mark Cohoe, Tim Hunt, Daniel Gravenor

*\*\*Information from the sign sheet including e-mail address and main areas of interest of participants is available in the Bike to the Future files at 303 Portage Avenue*

### 1. History of Bike to the Future (Kevin and Molly)

Molly gave an overview of how Bike to the Future got started. Kevin gave some background on his and other's involvement in bicycle advocacy in Winnipeg in the past 10 – 15 years. Discussed the activities of spring/summer 2006 and Critical Mass were instrumental in propelling this issue forward and galvanizing interest in cycling issues.

### 2. Committees and review of November Strategic Planning (Jackie)

Jackie reviewed the notes from our Strategic Planning session

Discussion on progress at the City of Winnipeg, the progress of the trails associations, need for connectivity of trails and on-road infrastructure.

### 3. Bike Advocacy Groups in other Jurisdictions (Mark, Jackie, Molly)

*\*\* Speaking notes compiled by Mark are attached*

### 4. Governance Structure Presentation (Gord)

*\*\*A copy of "How to start a not-for-profit organization" - needed*

## Discussion

- 8 people at the meeting have been on other not-for-profit boards and have board of director experience
- Gord proposes the *Carver methods of organization* as one option to focus the decision making process.
- A lot of the action can be delegated to various subcommittees and shared through website.

- Most of the action happens at the committee level
- Board of directors are empowered for one year to make decisions for the organization as they are elected officers.
- Anyone and any number of people can be on the Board. We can have members at large that also have voting power.
- We can organize as we want to – with our by-laws and formalized decision making documents. They can say that all but a few key decisions have to be made by consensus.
- It is important to us as an organization to plan for the future and for when there are more people involved. We have to show that we have legitimacy and would benefit from a structure that gives us credibility.
- Can we structure elected positions so that they form a 'core group' rather than board of directors – not have a chairperson but to share power of the organization between all people?
- ***Can we can still get grants as an incorporated not-for-profit?*** Yes
- Each sub-committee will be able to organize itself as it wants and can make decisions as they want. It can be extremely inclusive as we are now, but we can still have the Board structure to address accountability.

### **Planning**

- Once a year, the board should come together to get input for next year's plan. The plan is formalized by the board and adopts the plan, but takes into account everyone's opinions.
- The full membership can then have a vote on the action plan for the coming year.

### **Show of hands: we all agree that we should incorporate (or at least explore the possibility of doing something more formalized).**

We need three people to be able to incorporate and apply to reserve the name.  
Names are:

The people who acknowledged they'd be willing to do so are:

- Gord McGonigal
- Ken Gerrard
- Kevin Miller
- Anders Swanson
- Molly McCracken
- Jackie Avent

We then asked for those who would like to be involved on the committee that comes together to develop the governance model:

These people are:

- Alain Foidart
- Cory Bellhouse
- Rob Cosco
- Gord McGonigal
- Molly McCracken

## **5. Membership presentation and discussion (Molly) – to be attached**

We can have a low-income and family membership, as well as a business membership.

There may be the opportunity to partner with Natural Cycle on education and newsletter development.

We need to have our membership plans and forms ready for spring.

Ben has experience developing forms, so he is going to work on the membership form for the committee

## **6. Listserv – too many e-mails, what can we do?**

Kevin is the moderator. We have 70 subscribers.

Announcement list, notice-based list need – this can be present listserv

Web based system needed – ie wiki

## **7. Wiki – Bill Spornitz**

Discussion group or message group, people can subscribe to it and it can come to their inbox, or you can go to it on the web

Score card on what goes where i.e.: minutes, notices

Information will be sent out to people on changes being made!

***Postponed to Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> meeting:***

**Key activities this year based on our current capacity -  
group consensus (20 min)**

(From a high level, put details to a committee: ie we do lobbying, membership development, 2 key events, compile info, website/listserv)