

MINUTES OF BBL GENERAL MEETING ON AUGUST 24, 2017 AT THE WINERY

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Present were Ross Morrow from LCATS, Mike and Shirley Groseclose from the KOA, Becky Robb, Jeff Ritter, Brendan Underwood, Doug Hartfield, Lynne Collinson, Jeff Robb, Bill Collinson, George O'Donnel, Vickie Glover, and Peggy Wells.

Jeff Robb moved that the minutes of the meeting from last month be approved, Bill Collinson seconded and all voted in favor.

ACTIVITIES— BILL COLLINSON

Bill was on 90.9FM radio last Thursday at 8:30 a.m. giving a 20 minute interview about Bike Buckeye Lake, Inc. and "Tour de Buckeye Lake."

"Tour de Buckeye Lake" will begin registration August 26, Saturday, at 8:30 a.m. at the winery. We have 152 prepaid and preregistered riders and we are estimating 50 to 100 same day registrations. There will be 200 to 250 riders circumnavigating the lake. Volunteers are meeting at 10 a.m. on August 25, Friday, at the winery to set up the large tents, rake goose poop, and to mark the route with arrows and signage and plan the parking procedures for Saturday, and to receive the port-a-potties. The signage and arrows will be set up by Doug, Bill, Paul, and John. Brooms and sledge hammer will be needed for that.

ODOT is providing an electronic sign at the top of Cristland Hill Road by Honeysuckle Lane to slow and alert traffic. Cristland Road Hill has been patched and paved to eliminate any surfaces dangerous to riders. Two sheriff's deputies have been hired to slow traffic on Rte. 204 coming over the hill where riders cross at Shell Beach Road and Lake Road. Two sag wagons with flashing lights and "caution" signage will be riding the route to help slow down traffic and alert drivers. It is mandatory that every rider sign a waiver before getting their arm band and grab bag.

All volunteers will meet Saturday at 7 a.m. at the winery to get stickers on their white shirts and to get volunteer assignments. Tents will be set up, tables and chairs will be set up, banners will be hung. Doug will check the route one last time. Bill and Paul will finalize the parking. Brendan's people will grab tent, chairs, tables, water, snacks and banner and head out for Brook Park and North Shore State Park to set up rest stops. Gloria will be ready with the shuttle service. Busy time will be between 8:45 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. Riders can go out any time after signing waiver. The first riders will be back around 11 a.m. or noon as the ride takes 2 1/2 to 3 hours. Live music will start at 11:30 a.m. and go until 2:30 p.m.

The first 200 riders have a coupon for complementary beverage in their grab bag. Ideally, riders would buy lunch at the winery while they enjoy their beverage.

By 3:30 p.m. the ride will be finished. Our event officially ends at 5 p.m. We will takedown the registration tents at 11 a.m. to clear the handicap parking area and move the Christmas Bike Drive tents to the back and move all leftover water and snacks to the back.

Dave Ritter's boxes for large tents will be stored at Robbco. All Robb's equipment (tents, tables, coolers, chairs, etc.) will be taken down and packed up to be carted away. Trash will be collected and put in Tracy's dumpster. Grounds will be inspected for any litter from our event.

After the event, Bill and Lynne will send thank you letters to all sponsors, email thank you messages to all volunteers.

Next year's "Tour de Buckeye Lake" will be scheduled for Saturday, August 25, 2018.

We will send an e-survey to all new BBL riders/members getting suggestions on how to improve the event next year.

Our first volunteer meeting will be in February, 2018.

All volunteers from this year will be invited to a "thank you" party at Bill and Lynne's house late in September.

Mary Beth Lane from the Columbus Dispatch is putting a story in the paper tomorrow about the BBL and the "Tour de Buckeye Lake." George O'Donnel— In such publicity, we must strive to call the path and multi-purpose trail, not a "bike path". We do not want to be the "front" man in creating trails, but rather a background support team for LCATS and others.

Jeff suggested that we have a meeting with LCATS and with ODOT to start a conversation about a grand opening of the multi-use trail on the dam for next year.

Arrows for each of the tour segments will be a different color—main route, yellow; side trips, orange; mini ride, green. Each turn will be marked with arrows 50 feet out, arrow at the turn, and arrow after the turn pointing straight ahead. At the registration table there will be sample arrows to show riders what to look for.

All volunteers should wear a white shirt and will have a BBL sticker on the shirt. We purchased 1,000 BBL decals.

Crystal Davis has done a great job with our website. We need to get Crystal as an administrator for our face book page to augment Deb Mechling's efforts.

At the event, everyone is asked to take pictures. Jeff Robb will use the drone to take pictures from above. Pictures are very important for future publicity. We will appoint a volunteer to take pictures if we have extra people.

We have had publicity in the Shopper Reporter, the Newark Advocate, the Tribune, the on-line Beacon and tomorrow we will be in the Columbus Dispatch.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH—Jeff Ritter

George, Bill and Jeff went to the Union Township meeting and gave a 40 minute powerpoint presentation about BBL and its goals and about the "Tour de Buckeye Lake" event. They asked for support from Union Township and asked them to create a resolution in their notes to create a

bike-friendly environment in Union Township as a general goal. Townships will be asked to put signage out on the roads i.e.. silhouette of a biker or a “share the road” sign.

A meeting with Village of Buckeye Lake is scheduled. Getting 20 sponsors to support our event counts as community outreach as well.

We need another printing of our brochure and many changes need to be made including our website address and our 501C3 Status.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE—Jeff Robb

We have 152 new members from the prepaid registrants for the cycling event, plus at least 50 more expected to sign up same day at event, plus the 25 or so who had joined during the past year. We will need to put out a quarterly e-newsletter to keep members informed of what is going on. It was suggested that Shannon Short of Heron Bay has skill in the newsletter area as a communication person for Chase Bank.

ROUTE PLANNING—George O’Donnel

George pointed out that the deadline of January 2018 is looming for submitting our grant requests and we have been unable to find a grant writer that our budget can afford. He requests help. He has two sites available for partial multi-use trails.

Brendan Underwood suggests that in order to move forward with trail development, we need first to do a feasibility study which would create an overall picture of the benefits of trails to the community. Since we have three counties, several townships, and several villages involved in the Buckeye Lake Regional Development process, there needs to be an overall cohesive picture—not just random bits and pieces. The feasibility study results would then support the piece by piece efforts for George as part of a bigger picture. Also a timeline needs to be developed as to what will occur first, second, third and so on. The timeline will address how many years it will take to move from step to step.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. with a motion by Bill Collinson and a second by Peggy Wells. All voted in favor.

The next meeting is September 28, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the winery.