

MINUTES OF BIKE BUCKEYE LAKE GENERAL MEETING, MARCH 23, 2017, 6:30 P.M. AT BUCKEYE LAKE WINERY

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. There were 17 people in attendance as follows: Paul Swisher, president of the Licking County Bike Club; Ken Reber who lives on West Bank; Carol Winch; Mike Anderson; Judy Horning; Jeff Robb; Doug Hartfield; Peggy Wells; Bill Collinson; Vicki Glover; Lynne Collinson; Shirley Groseclose; Mike Groseclose; Becky Robb; Deb Mechling; Kay Morrison; John Stevens; Jeff Ritter.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE REPORT from Bill Collinson

Circumnavigation of the lake bike event, named "Tour de Buckeye Lake", is scheduled for Saturday, August 26, 2017. The event will begin and end at the Buckeye Lake Winery and will include a 25 mile circumnavigation of Buckeye Lake. The venue can accommodate up to 500 riders and we are hoping to get at least 250. Each participant will pay a fee of \$25 and will receive a grab bag with t-shirt, directions for the tour, voucher for a glass of wine, and miscellaneous items from local businesses. The purpose of the event is to promote bicycling, to promote development of multi-purpose trails around the lake, to help local businesses, to elevate the profile of Buckeye Lake Region as a vibrant community and to raise funds to purchase bicycles for underprivileged children at Christmas. We hope to have post-tour activities at the winery including a live band, boat rides, kayak rentals, kiosks from local businesses, etc.

After meeting with Cathy Levy of Pedal with Pete, we have decided that a starting block of time from 8:30 to 10:30 will spread the riders out naturally along the road, will allow for leisurely or vigorous riding styles and allow riders to begin the ride when they want. Businesses will be encouraged to set up a tent or a display along the route. Plus we will have four tent stops placed along the route with water, portable potty, directions, etc. We plan to request use of Millersport Fire Station and state parks along the route for additional restroom stops.

We need volunteers for the event. We plan to request student volunteers from Lakewood High School. We had ten volunteers sign up at the meeting as follows: Vickie Glover, Peggy Wells, Doug Hartfield, Judy Horning, Paul Swisher, Deb Mechling, Becky Robb, Mike and Shirley Groseclose, and Kay Morrison.

Paul Swisher announced that the Licking County Bike Club Meeting will be April 18 at 6 p.m. at the Newark Library at 101 East Main Street in Newark. All members of Bike Buckeye Lake are invited to attend that meeting.

MARKETING COMMITTEE REPORT— from Doug Hartfield

Doug announced that we have a web site but it has not yet been released. Crystal Davis has been working on it. The name is bikebuckeyelake.org. We also have a post office box at the Buckeye Lake Post Office. Our address is BBL, P.O. Box 523, Buckeye Lake, Ohio 43008.

We will be getting new brochures soon. The new brochures will contain contact information.

A new bike law was passed in Ohio which requires cars to maintain a safe distance (3 feet) from riders when passing. The law takes effect March 21.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ROUTE PLANNING— Jeff Ritter

ODNR has made it known that a multi-purpose trail will be constructed on top of the dam. There will be a 30-foot wide grass area with a path which will stretch for 4.1 miles along the lake.

Several of our committee chairpersons attended a MORPC meeting in Lancaster last month. Holly Mattei lead the meeting explaining that their purpose is to ensure that when new communities are planned, there is space reserved for multi-purpose trails. Attendees at the meeting were given a map on which to draw proposed multi-purpose trails around the Buckeye Lake Region.

Jeff and George attended a Perry County meeting today concerning the development of the entire region with trails along the CSX line from Somerset to Thornville and trails connecting Buckeye Lake with Wayne Forest.

Ludiwici, the tile company in Perry County, is donating land to create a family destination.

Next Wednesday Rails to Trails Workshop is from 8:30 to 4 p.m. downtown Columbus. We will continue to partner with them for learning and education to take place.

We need to continue to meet with village and township representatives who can help us to get grants for trail development.

We need to meet with the school board members of local schools.

We need to meet with all four Chambers of Commerce: Buckeye Lake Region, Fairfield County, Perry County, and Licking County.

TREASURY COMMITTEE—from Mike Anderson

Mike announced that it is official—Bike Buckeye Lake is no longer a club; it is a non-profit corporation. We have had our Initial Organization Meeting and the First Meeting of the Board of Directors. Carolyn Melvin, retired attorney, has helped with the process of becoming a non-profit entity. We will now have a tax ID number, 501C3 charity status, and contributions to our group will be tax deductible.

The Board of Directors consists of Jeff Ritter, Jeff Robb, Becky Robb, Mike Anderson.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE—from Jeff Robb

There were three initiatives that were being addressed by the membership committee:

1. Develop a Business Summit for March 17. We were unable to pull that together. The big issue was that grants and loan programs such as Lakes in Distress were coming to an end at the end of March. We just didn't have enough time to get the word out.
2. Develop a list of benefits members enjoy by joining Bike Buckeye Lake. Jeff read the list to those present and asked for additional ideas.
3. Develop membership fees on an Excel Spreadsheet. Now that we are officially a non profit entity, we can open doors for membership. We can use the Bike Buckeye Lake event in August as a membership drive.

In closing all members were encouraged to participate in the Pedal with Pete Event July 29 in Hilliard. Everyone who goes to a meeting should post it on our Facebook page and tell what they learned.

Our first paid membership occurred at this meeting. Peggy Wells became our very first paid member.

It was suggested that KOA should be working with George O'Donnell in planning multi-purpose trails which would connect with the campground.

It was suggested that insurance needs to be purchased to protect BBL from liability issues. Paul Swisher wants to discuss with the committee members things that we need to know about this necessary insurance.

The next meeting will be April 27, 2017, the fourth Thursday of the month, at 6:30 at the winery.