

## **Minutes for BCCC Special Board Meeting**

Date: March 28, 2017

Location: Online

In attendance: Jim Hannon, President  
Julian Katz, Vice president  
Susan Callaway, Secretary  
Lori Wade, Treasurer  
Peter Richardson, Member-at-Large

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 by President Jim Hannon.

### **History:**

Jim gave an overview of the South Bay Bicycle Coalition's mission and accomplishments and reviewed the history of the proposed merger between BCCC and SBBC, which was initially discussed in 2010. The two organizations overlap in many areas such as cycling education and community outreach, and both are 501(c)3 organizations. Several people are members of both organizations. SBBC has a part-time Executive Director, which was written into their charter.

In 2016, a feasibility and evaluation study team was formed consisting of 2 BCCC members (Trish Botsko and Peter Richardson) and 2 SBBC members (Mike Don and David Sundius). In March 2017, this team provided us with an executive summary.

### **Discussion of Merger:**

Jim then moderated a discussion about the merging these two organizations.

Some of the points made were as follows:

Merging might allow us to separate volunteer/advocacy activities and riding activities.

Many people might not be aware of the volunteer side of BCCC.

People in SBBC might be interested in bicycle education activities and BCCC members might be interested in advocacy opportunities if they knew more about them.

Some people weren't that interested in cycling but wanted bike lanes and liked working with cities.

Jim and Julian also reviewed the history of why SBBC didn't become a part of LA County Bicycle Coalition.

A merger could benefit BCCC because of SBBC's administrative staff, avoidance of duplication of efforts/projects, financial savings (on insurance and filing fees), and an opportunity for some of BCCC's dues to go toward social events (by setting up some activities under 501(c)7).

Jim mentioned two bicycling organizations in Washington that had merged so that now one focuses on advocacy and the other on rides and education. They allowed a year to plan and implement the merger.

Peter felt like we needed find out how merger would benefit BCCC members if we wanted to sell them on this idea...possibly discounted prices on jerseys. Otherwise the merger only benefits the SBBC side by giving them more members/funds.

Julian felt the board shouldn't be ambivalent about this but should recommend the merger.

Jim felt that we do have members who are interested in advocacy and want infrastructure improvements that would make bicycling safer.

Jim then showed a possible organizational chart of what it would look like if SBBC and BCCC merged with 3 "branches": Advocacy, Education and Member Activities (rides, social events, classes for members).

#### **Discussion about Voting on and Implementing Merger:**

We then discussed how and when to go about voting on the merger.

We would need to write Pro and Con statements and place it on ballot.

We need to decide if we should vote on it at the same time as Board Elections.

Would we require a simple majority or two-thirds majority on merger?

Does just BCCC vote on merger?

If the merger happens, we need to develop an implementation plan and decide on a time frame.

Other issues that board members felt we needed to address:

How would the club be structured? What will it look like?

How would the grant money and sponsorship money be handled?

How would the dues be allocated...where does the money go??

Lori felt there would be more strength in numbers, and more people to draw on when Jim retires.

Julian said he thought SBBC had talented members that would add to our management, and that it was up to us as the board to lead. He felt most members won't care what we do, that they should have faith in the board.

Peter felt that it was our job to educate members so they would know what they were voting for.

Jim said he feels he has enough information to move forward, and he wants to make sure the club continues to function regardless of who's in charge.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30.