

**Comox Valley Cycling Task Force
Minutes of the meeting held on March 18, 2008
Town of Comox Council Chambers**

Present: Ronna-Rae Leonard, Patti Fletcher, Barbara Price, Richard Kanigan (Tech Committee Rep)

Members of the Public: Jim Lister

Agenda was approved

Minutes:

The minutes of the February 19, 2008 meeting were received and approved.

Business Arising:

a) Soaring Eagles Cycling Routes:

The task force reviewed copies of the email and letter of support sent from the City of Courtenay on behalf of the request made by Mr. Schum. Chair Ronna-Rae Leonard will send letters to the other local governments requesting they also send letters of support for the Soaring Eagles Cycling Routes initiative.

b) Provincial Contact Re: Provincial Transit Plan/Cycling Strategy

Ray Boogards is to follow-up and report back to task force members with details on the plan and the provincial contact information for this initiative. Richard Kanigan agreed to raise the issue at the technical committee as follow-up.

Technical Committee Report

Technical Committee representative, Richard Kanigan attended the meeting to provide an update on the initial meeting of the group. Initiatives that are being worked on include standardizing cycling signage, recommending a new governance model for the Cycling Task Force and developing a region wide grant application to be submitted for next year.

Other Funding Opportunities:

Chair Ronna-Rae Leonard circulated information regarding various sources of cycling related funding under the Community Works Fund/General Strategic Priorities and Public Transit Funds and the Gas Tax Funds programs. The information will be passed on to the Technical Committee for their information.

Patti Fletcher made mention of another program that has recently been announced: The "UBCM Built Environment and Active Transportation Community Planning Grant", and information will be forthcoming as to application process from the UBCM to local government.

Regional District Recreation Grant Services – Comox Valley Cycling Task Force

The Task Force requested clarification on the line item in the RD Recreation Grant Services proposed budget, as to how the funds would be expended. The item has been referred to Ray Boogards for additional information.

Bike To Work Week Update

Jim Lister attended the meeting to provide the Task Force with an update as to planning activities for Bike to Work Week. Funding from the Victoria Bike to Work Week has not been announced so plans continue on a reduced scale and budget for the event that is to be held in the Comox Valley from June 2 to June 8, 2008. Nanaimo, Richmond, Kelowna and Victoria will also be holding similar events. The “Kickoff” event will be held on April 21, 2008 at which time will begin the 6 week countdown to the actual Bike to Work Week.

Dyke Road – Sweeping

It was reported that Dyke Road was swept on March 8, 2008, and it was much appreciated by all cyclists that regularly use this route.

Other Issues:

Top of Comox Hill in Comox

Jim Lister raised the concern regarding the top of Comox Hill as you ride into Comox. The bike lane narrows and then ends as you crest the top. He asked if there is anything that could be done in a cost-effective manner to alleviate the situation. Richard Kanigan mentioned that he will review the options that could be considered as solutions.

Summer Meeting Schedule:

The July 15 and August 19 meetings have been cancelled.

Meeting Terminated at 4:05 pm.

Next meeting – April 15, Courtenay Council Chambers