

Big Ole Bike Club Spring Gathering – April 2, 2017 – Grand Arbor

The gathering started at 4:30 with social and registration time with 33 people in attendance.

The meeting started at 5:45pm by President Kevin Risner with the following topics:

- Introduction of Club Officers
- Review of what a 501c3 status means and does for the BOBC – tax deductible donations
- Fundraising activities – Keep track of all volunteer hours as this will be used when applying for grants.
- Membership advantages – 20% off from Jake’s Bike, make a difference in the community, cool people
- Planned Activities – Emails and Facebook posts will be sent to let everyone know of the upcoming events that volunteers are needed. An online system will be researched to make signup easy and a way of tracking volunteer hours. Watch the BOBC website’s calendar as all events will be posted. Currently planned events are as follows:
 - Trail Cleanup – 4/19/17
 - Bike Rodeo – 4/22/17 11am – 1pm ATCC
 - Chain of Lakes Tri – 5/6/17 (volunteers needed to run the timing/transition area for bikers)
 - Ride of Silence – 5/17/17 7:00pm Big Ole Park
 - 2017 MS Tram – 7/19/17 leave Alexandria 7/23/17 return to Alexandria
 - Fund raising video for Mountaineers and trail Building
 - Big Ole Bicycle Festival – 08/11-13/17
 - Church of the Harvest Duathlon – Labor Day Weekend
 - Bohemian Hundirt 100, ½ Hundirt Gravel Race – 09/16/2017 Tentative at this time
 - AAYC activities Mountaineers
- Betty Hanskins spoke about the “Max Out Your Loss” event coming to Arrowwood on July 21-23, 2017. They are looking for volunteers to help their attendees with bike safety, rides and education about bike riding.
- Weekly ride options were discussed. For each ride, someone needs to volunteer to be a “Ride Leader” and is responsible to stay with the most deliberate rider of the group. They will introduce the group before the ride and determine if two groups maybe an option based off the rider’s abilities. The Ride Leader will stay with the slower group. We need to grow our ridership and it’s important not to ride off and leave anyone in the group. The Ride Leaders are to report back to the President so he can monitor the progress as well as keep track of the Ride Leader’s volunteer hours. The President will report back to the BOBC board at the regular meetings as this is an important topic that needs to be continually monitored. Rides will be posted on the website’s calendar with a description of the ride and speed. A new Women’s Gravel Ride was discussed for a Tuesday evening. Tim Woodle spoke that he is gathering information from the Senior Center folks to see if there is interest in slower rides and to become involved with the Big Ole Bike Club. Scott Deitz reviewed the Gravel Grinder’s rides and procedures.
- Jake of Jake’s Bikes gave a presentation on what’s happening at Jake’s and one of his goals this year is to pursue the Bike Friendly Community designation for Alexandria. He appreciates everyone’s business and support.
- Jeff Brand gave a report on the single-track trail update for Mountain Biking in the area. He’s involved with the master plan of trails at both Kensington Rune Stone County Park and Brophy County Park as well as the Barsness Park in Glenwood. There is a potential of 10 miles of trails at Kensington, 5 miles at Brophy and 7 miles at Barsness. Currently he has orchestrated \$90,000.00 from various entities to develop gravity trails for mountain bikers at Brophy County Park.
- Bryan Swenson volunteered to head up the National Bike Challenge Event that begins May 1st through September 30. This event allows individuals and organizations to join and log all of their biking miles to obtain points. More information will be presented as it becomes available.
- Door Prizes from Jake’s Bikes were awarded along with 2 BOBC jerseys. A big thank you to Jake’s Bikes for all the prizes.
- Gathering ended at 7:25pm.