

Minutes of a Meeting
of the Directors of
The Freewheelers of Spartanburg
and
Freewheelers Cycling Association
(August 5, 2024)

The monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of The Freewheelers of Spartanburg was held August 5, 2024 in Room 209 of Spartanburg Community College downtown campus. The President, Karl Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Also present at the meeting were Mike Bonner, Larry Richards, Pablo Pena, Ken Watts, Bob Higgins, Marshall Walsh, Jim Hines and Larry Hart.

The President opened the meeting with a review of the minutes from the prior meeting held on July 8, 2024. After a discussion, the minutes were approved as read.

The next matter to be considered was the election of officers for the coming year. A full slate of proposed officers had not been available at the July meeting, but Karl Johnson reported that the following had agreed to serve in the following positions:

President	Karl Johnson
Vice President	Mike Bonner
Secretary	Marshall Walsh
Treasurer	Jim Hines
Member-at-Lare	Kelly Verdell
Membership Director	Bob Higgins

After a discussion and upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the proposed slate of officers were elected to serve for the coming year or until their successors are elected and qualified.

There also was a discussion of the need for a person to possible serve as Web Administrator, but as yet, no one had volunteered. It was suggested that this might be divided into two positions: one to deal with the technical aspects of the Club's website and Facebook page; the second being a Director of Social Media who would in charge of updating content. It was agreed that the position(s) might depend upon the talent available in the membership at large.

Next the Board on behalf of the Freewheelers Cycling Association (FCA) conducted a review of the status of the Assaults on Mitchell/Marion. Since the last meeting a proposed contract with Flourish had been received and the members of the Board discussed their comments. It was noted that although final financial results for the 2024 Assaults were not available the best estimate was that it had barely broken even. Revenues had decreased due to fewer participants, but expenses had increased.

There was substantial uncertainty whether a permit could be obtained to use Mount Mitchell State Park due to possible a possible waterline construction. There earliest date when FCA could receive a definite answer would be sometime in November, but it might come later.

There directors were reluctant to commit FCA to incurring substantial expenses that could not be recovered should the permit be denied. Therefore, upon motion duly made seconded and carried, it was:

RESOLVED, that the May 2025 Assault on Mitchell/Marion is canceled and the proposed contract with Flourish will not be executed; and

RESOLVED, FURTHER that a subcommittee be created to discuss and formulate options for one or more alternative events in calendar year 2025.

The President appointed Larry Hart to be chairman of the subcommittee. The Board members will attempt to recruit as many members of the Club as possible to contribute their ideas.

There was next a general discussion of how to deal with riders at Club rides who repeatedly violate safety protocols. For the safety of all members, it was felt that some form of progressive discipline needed to be developed to deal with riders who disregarded multiple warnings over a period of time. Suggestions were made to consider removing the offenders from ride notifications or, as a last resort, expelling them from the Club. No action was taken as it was agreed that a broad consensus of the membership needed to be obtained from on the appropriateness of such actions.

It was also suggested that the Club consider moving the meetings to another location and/or a different day to encourage greater attendance and participation by the general membership. It was agreed that before taking further action feedback from the membership as large should be obtained

There being no further business and upon motion duly made seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary