

**Minutes of a Meeting of
The Freewheelers of Spartanburg
and
Freewheelers Cycling Association
May 5, 2026**

The monthly meeting of the Freewheelers of Spartanburg and the Freewheelers Cycling Association was held on May 5, 2026, in the Meeting Room of TakoSushi restaurant (formerly Rockers Silo). Present at the meeting were Karl Johnson, President; Mike Forrester, Vice-President; Marshall Walsh, Treasurer; Cheryl Miller, Board Member at Large; Dave Coggins, Board Member at Large; Kristie Thome, Bicycle Shop Liaison; Styebve Verdell, Director of Safety; Greg Kyzer ***; Paul Lefrancois, Palmetto Cycling Coalition Liaison; Jennifer Weaver, Membership Chairman. Also present was Jennifer Britiansky

The President called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and noted that pursuant to Article V, Section 2 of the Bylaws, a quorum was present. He then reviewed the items on the Agenda that had previously been sent electronically to the members of the Board.

Approval of Minutes

The first item of business was to review and approved the minutes of the April 7, 2026 meeting. The proposed minutes had been previously forwarded to the members of the Board along with the Agenda. The President reviewed the minutes to those present and the upon motion duly made, and seconded, the minutes were approved as presented

Freewheelers Cycling Association

There were no items for consideration this month by the Freewheelers Cycling Association. The President did note that the water line replacement project for Mount Mitchell State Park is expected to be completed later this year. Highway 80 from Marion to the Blue Ridge Parkway is still closed as well as the Parkway itself from Highway 80 to Mount Mitchell State Park.

Committee Reports

A. Kit Committee

The Kit Store is now open and running. Sizes for the Giordana kits run differently from the Hincapie. Samples of each size are available at the Trek Store in Spartanburg to assist with proper sizing.

B. Membership

The current membership now stands at 218.

C. Sponsorship/Marketing

Checks have been received from three sponsors: Teletek, Spartan Waste, Ballew's Aluminum Products and ProMotion Rehab and Sports Medicine. We are expecting checks from Spartanburg Regional Healthcare, Hub City Hospitality (Venus Pie), R. J. Rockers (TakoSushi Restaurant) and Spartanburg Water System.

D. Web/Media

The process for updating the Club's webpage is proceeding. No significant developments.

E. Rides/Touring

Planning is underway for the Miles for Mammogram ride to be held September 19, 2026. The initial plan is start the ride at the Tryon International Equestrian Center near Mill Springs, NC. The Center has been very encouraging and has suggested a number of items in addition to use of their facility. The planning committee is also evaluating the possibility of including a gravel ride as part of the activities.

Jennifer Weaver reported on the Rally to End Alzheimer's, which is scheduled for May 9. Registration has been slower than last year, but a good crowd is expected. It was suggested that the fee registrations on the day of the event be increased to encourage early registration and help with advance planning.

Officer Reports

Kristie Thome requested guidance on her duties as Bicycle Shop Liasion. She noted that the Spartanburg Trek Store has been very helpful with providing information regarding the Club to its customers.

Paul LeFrancois reported on the progress of S. 812 the "Idaho Stop" law. It has been passed out of committee and is ssawaiting a full vote by the House of Representatives. There does not appear to be any significant opposition and the chances for a favorable vote appear to be good. Paul also gave an update of the Lake Whechel Trail.

Steve Verdell stated that ride leaders need to stress the importance of riders keeping "tight and to the right" on rides. Riders do need to avoid potholes and debris and other obstructions in the road, but they need to stay away from the center line as much as possible to avoid collisions with oncoming vehicles or vehicles trying to pass riders. He also suggested that riders should continue to pedal after cresting a hill so that riders behind do not ride into those in front.

Dave Coggins stated that he is researching the various bike mounted video cameras that are available. When there is an incident between a rider and a motorist, a video is one of the best ways to hold dangerous drivers accountable.

Greg Kyzer reported that there have been a number of recent incidents involving dogs. He suggested that ride leaders should become aware of the location of dangerous dogs on their routes and they should make other riders aware of these dogs.

There being no further business and upon motion duly made seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held June 2, 2026.

Karl Johnson requested that all the current officers and board members to let him know if they are willing to serve for another year.

Respectfully submitted

Marshall Walsh, Secretary