

**“CYCLE BROOKFIELD” MEETING RECAP
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024
LSF BROOKFIELD LIBRARY**

Chris V. called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present:

Robin Fuener, Elaine Jans, Pete Janunas, Joe O’Connor, Chris Rios, Chris Valadez

1. Approval of Minutes:

1.1 October 17, 2024 minutes were distributed. There being no changes or corrections, motion was made by Joe O. to approve the minutes as written, and seconded by Chris R. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Past Events Report:

2.1 Halloween Costume Ride – 102 participants signed waivers. Ride was 6.2 miles. All participants enjoyed the ride and follow up bonfire and s’mores. Chris V. had brought walkie-talkies for the event and felt they worked well. Joe O. felt there was good volunteer support.

Joe O. indicated that as the riding groups get larger, and since everyone does not ride at the same pace, there are often gaps where the group in front has to stop and wait for the other group to catch up. Discussion will be held in 2025 as to what improvements might be made for the especially large riding groups on Light Up your Bike and Halloween Costume Rides.

It was also suggested that in 2025, all First Friday Rides and the Halloween Costume Ride start at 6:30 p.m. Because it stays light longer in the summer, the Light Up Your Bike Ride would continue to begin at 8:00 p.m.

3. Current Business Review:

3.1 Finances – Chris V. indicated that the current balance in Cycle Brookfield’s account is approximately \$1,900. Cycle Brookfield recently submitted a payment of \$1,670.30 to Service Sanitation, which was payment for the pot-a-potties used for the Chicago Grit. The Chicago Grit will be sending a “rebate” of \$400 to Cycle Brookfield after the check to Service Sanitation clears.

Chris V. indicated that he was not happy with the overall service from Service Sanitation and will explore other vendors in 2025

3.2 Membership – Joe O. reported that membership has not changed, and it is likely there will not be any new members until 2025. It was discussed to do a membership campaign in early April, 2025.

3.3 Inventory Review -- Chris R. has ordered 63 new t-shirts from Ink Your Wear which will debut at the Annual Summit in January. Cost is \$862.52.

3.4 Engagement – Chris V. reported that there is a \$1.7 million budget necessary for continued work on the 31st Street Corridor. Since this project is not only contained in Brookfield, continued advocacy is necessary to get others on board. and he and Val Cramer continue to work with other communities to form their own cycle groups.

3.5 Village Planning Updates—Joe S. was not able to attend the meeting, but submitted the following:

Bicycle Parking: Our recommendation for bicycle racks in the next village budget are included in the conservation committees request moving forward.

31st St: Earlier this month, the project team presented to the Village trustees three alignments for the 31st St. side path connector to the Des Plaines River Trail from Prairie Ave to 1st save. The trustees preferred the alignment along the south side of 31st St. This option avoids crossing 31st St, does not connect to Brookfield Woods, and also has the highest cost due to several items, including tree impacts. Should the project advance beyond this study, the village would likely have to find a 20% cost share to match state or federal funding. That contribution is a long way off, but Cycle Brookfield could help with letters of support, build support among the other municipalities like Riverside (which would have part of the path), and generally continue cheerleading the project moving ahead.

3.6. Social Media Updates – None

4. Upcoming Events

4.1. January, 16, 2025 – Cycle Brookfield Annual Summit – Compassion Factory – 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Planning discussion was held about the Annual Summit. Joe O' will create a flyer for the event. Chris V. will reach out to Village of Brookfield leadership to speak at the event. Dave Gorman from Working Bikes is also a potential speaker.

Cycle Brookfield “Year in Review” and highlights of upcoming 2025 will be presented.

It was discussed to provide pizza, soft drinks and water. Buckle Down Brewery and Imperial Oak will be approached as to the possibility of them creating a “Cycle Brookfield” beer for the event.

The new Cycle Brookfield t-shirts will be available to purchase. Chris V. will contact other vendors to promote their products. A donation jar will available. Also looking for donations for raffle prizes.

Meeting will be open to the public, but any non-members attending the Summit will be encouraged to join Cycle Brookfield.

4.2 Friday, February 7, 2025 – Movie “Breaking Away” – Compassion Factory

4.3. Friday, March 7, 2025 – Spring Bike Tune-Up Event – Location TBD – Pete J.

5.5 Open

5.1 Joe O. mentioned Cycle Brookfield had been contacted by Madison Newton an intern at Illinois Environmental Council (IEC) regarding the Clean & Equitable Transportation Act and the Illinois Environmental Council. They wish to learn more about Cycle Brookfield and discuss if a *Listen Lead Share* event would be beneficial for our members and community. A *Listen Lead Share* event would allow Cycle Brookfield to learn more about the Clean and Equitable Transportation Act and other transportation policies that affect biking, and share perspectives and experiences as cyclists in Illinois.

5.2. Chris R. received an advertising email from BattiStrata which promotes cycling events. He will investigate if this format can be used by Cycle Brookfield.

5.3. Pete J. suggested a spring “Donate Bikes” to Working Bikes campaign. Working Bikes accepts donations of adult bikes in repairable condition, gently used kids’ bikes, bike parts, and accessories and provides community members and neighbors with affordable refurbished bicycles.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m. was made by Chris R. and seconded by Robin F. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by: Elaine Jans, Secretary