**AlaBike BOD Minutes -** Sunday Jan 19, 2014 (face-to-face in Birmingham)

**Promoting Bicycling Access, Education, and Safety throughout Alabama**

**Attendance**: Stan Palla, Jamie Miernik, Tracy Hale, George Hamilton, Keith Johnson, Morgan Andriulli, Danny Feldman, Steve Justice, Sam Rombokas. Kirk Iversen couldn’t make it.

Nov Meeting Minutes approval: (attached) Motion to accept November as written, by acclamation.

Treasury Report: (attached) Bank balance of $16,646 as 17 Jan. 2014, Motion to accept by Danny, second by Morgan, all in favor, accepted by acclimation.

**Actions:**

1. **Action Tracy:** List of LCIs needs to go on the website, on the education page, with contact info for class requests. There are about 10 LCIs who are AlaBike members currently.
2. **Action Stan:** Ask ALDOT about progress on state bike plan update for bike routes, & who are the movers & shakers for getting rideable updates done.
3. **Action Stan:** Get with Keith on costs (B’ham P.O.Box) and annual organizational memberships.
4. **Action Stan:** Do some Facebook “boosts” and report back.
5. **Action Stan:** Send to BOD the info about the “Revolution Parade” in B’ham May 10th, 2014.
6. **Action Sam:** Find out who may know the Governor to get him to make a statewide proclamation in May for National Bike Month
7. **Action Stan & Sam:** Look into an “AlaBike Friendly Communities” (AFC) rating modeled on LAB criteria. Communities might like to have that designation for their website, tourist brochures & signs on the roads leading to town. See if modeling a state AFC program from AlaBike is feasible.
8. **Action Jamie:** Remind AlaBike folks about the upcoming National Bike Summit registration deadline.
9. **Action Jamie:** Get the hospitality suite in Huntsville for the No. AL Bike Summit, Embassy Suites.
10. **Action All:** Review the draft 2104 budget and provide comments to Stan and Jamie

**Passed Motions:**

1. $300 budget for a hospitality suite in Huntsville at the No. AL Bike Summit, Embassy Suites.
2. $50 budget for facebook boosts, to see how it works.

Welcome/President’s Opening Remarks: Jamie Miernik  
 Sam Rombokas introduction, he’s new to the BOD, from Tuscaloosa, 5K road miles/year, past principle of Bob Jones High School in Huntsville, a part of Druid City Bike Club.

Jamie convinced Huntsville to submit a Green Lane Project grant application to People for Bikes. In order to apply, a community must have at least one protected lane in the pipeline, (and they do!). She wrote the grant, and gathered some six endorsement letters from local group s& companies (SCCC, MTRAC, Rocket City Cycle Belles, ERC Corporation, Mayor Battle…). Should Huntsville win, they will get a $35K grant for planning + a trip to Europe for an elected official & a planner to see better bike infrastructure in action. The award will be made in mid March.

Alliance for Biking & Walking Advocacy Organization of the Year Application (attached)

**Reports:**

1. **State bike route committee report** – Tracy notes that she pulled together a committee with Adventure Cycling Association, & they met in November. Purpose is to coordinate the bike routes which cross state lines with ALDOT, to select routes that make sense to cyclists, and meet up with already established routes in neighboring states. Note that the current routes in ALDOT’s plan do not meet up with the neighboring states, seems like Alabama routes were done in a vacuum. We need ALDOT involvement because they have (& control) the state bike routes plan. Stan notes that most clubs don’t know their ALDOT Division Engineer, (8 Divisions in the state) and we should promote that knowledge via Bike Shorts and other outreach.
2. **Cycling Education Committee report** – Tracy notes that the number of LCIs has dropped, with the center of gravity being in north Alabama. The LCI group in Huntsville area gather monthly. Toys for Tots (US Marines) were encouraged to provide helmets with the bikes they donate. SCCC gave the Marines money ($750) for the helmets via community grant. Traffic Safety (TS101) class to be offered by Dave Stone in April in Huntsville.
3. **North AL State Bike Summit Report** – Jamie notes that it starts Feb. 27th at the VBC, registration Is not yet open but will be about $50. We expect Adventure Cycling to send a rep, and AlaBike is lobbying LAB to send a speaker. The theme is “Building Bicycle Friendly Communities”. While the agenda is still fluid, the plan is for Stan will make a presentation on Birmingham bikeshare, and the “State of the State” for bicycling, highlighting the progress over 2013. Morgan motions & Tracy seconds to spend a max of $300 for hospitality room & refreshments. Motion carries.
4. **National Bike Summit** – Jamie notes that Kirk Iversen & Peter Wolf are planning to go to the Summit. Jamie & Tracy are maybes. Dates are March 3-5, 2014.
5. **Organizational expenses** (LAB is due 1 Feb., Alliance for Bike & Walk, other?) – Stan & Keith will work it out.
6. **Communications Report** – Morgan has signed us up for free version of “Mail Chimp” one of the well known tools for managing club memberships. He’s using it for “Bike Shorts” and for Alabama Backroads Century series of rides. This might be a tool we would want to consider paying for.
7. **Legislative Committee Report** – Stan notes that the “3 foot passing Bill” (SB9) was read twice, once in the Commerce & then in the Utility committees in the Senate, then SB9 will be up for a vote. After the Senate passes the Bill, the House will take it up.
8. **Exec Dir Report** – Stan Palla notes that we have 34 new members in December, 5 new in January, for a total of about 120 or so. The AlaBike Facebook page is at 974 “likes” which is a significant increase. Facebook has an advertising service called “Boost” that posts an ad on people’s Facebook page (right-hand side of the screen) who in some way express an interest in cycling. A Motion was made by Keith to spend $50 on Facebook post “Boost” as a onetime effort, second by Tracy. Motion passes. Stan notes that he holds a “Tour de Ham” beginners ride every Tuesday night, some 25-60 folks ride, no rider left behind. Stan would like the BOD’s blessing to set up a trial AlaBike website, (he plans to use the Weebly S/W tool). Given.

Stan met with the Forester at Talladega National Forest (near Moundville & Brent, Lake Payne) and they have a plan to encourage cycling min the area. Stan plans to hold a campout/event in March 2014 there. The roads are a combination of dirt & gravel, think Cyclecross. Consider an event for 2015, an epic race.

1. **Revolution Bike Parade, May 10th** at 1 PM, in Birmingham. There will be an art show, a community event; the McWane Science Center is a sponsor, and there will also be a bike & gear swap. Stan plans to repeat the “30 Days of May ride your bike & post a picture each day” on Facebook. [May 10 is also the Huntsville Mayor’s Ride at 9 am]
2. **2014 Planning and Budget**. Stan talked his 2014 budget proposal, and it’s great to have one to plan with!

**Old Business:**

1. “Red State Coalition” bike meeting in Texas in April 2014. Executive Directors are being invited. Stan to report on progress-deferred.
2. What is the cost and date for payment of the B’ham P.O. Box? Stan to find out, let Keith know.

**New Business:**

There was interest in forming a committee to award AlaBike Friendly Community awards through AlaBike. Will look into what LAB does, criteria, cost, etc.

AL specialty license plates were discussed. Share the Road Mobile failed in their attempt that ended in Oct 2013. AlaBike should do this

**Next meeting Date: Feb 23, 2014, telecom 7 pm.**