

## Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2023 Membership Meeting (New Member Meeting)

- Pursuant to notice duly provided, the New Member meeting of the club was convened via Zoom on May 8, 2023.
- Paul Sakson, President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm and there were 23 members of the club present, including all of the board members. (Other members joined throughout the call.) There were approximately 5 members recognized as new on the call.
- Pat Perrella, Vice President, called for a vote on the approval of the minutes of the prior meeting. On a voice vote, there were 22 ayes, 1 abstention, no nays, and the minutes were approved.
- Mike Greaney, Secretary, reported that no correspondence of significance had been received.
- Eric Bonett, Treasurer, reviewed March and April activity. Sheryl Nishiura made a motion to accept the report, which was seconded by Rob Leitner. On a voice vote, there were 25 ayes, no nays, no abstentions, and the Treasurer's report was accepted.
- Paul Sakson presented a non-budgeted expense of less than \$200 for approval by the membership. Paul explained that while holding meetings via a Zoom call originated during Covid, they are now a regular method of holding meetings for the club. The club has been using Zoom call information provided by members, and it was the sense of the board that the club should have its own Zoom account, which would cost approximately \$149 per year. A motion to approve this expense was made by Charles Kirlew and seconded by Rob Leitner. On a voice vote, there were 26 ayes, no nays, and no abstentions, and the expenditure was approved. Rob Leitner suggested that a club e-mail account referencing Zoom could be created, and there was consensus that this would be helpful. Rob created the e-mail account prior to the end of the meeting ([zoom@jsts.us](mailto:zoom@jsts.us), which will forward to [board@jsts.us](mailto:board@jsts.us)).
- Paul Sakson discussed a proposed change to by-laws to be discussed and approved at a future meeting. Rob Leitner pointed out that the text of the proposed change would have to be presented at a meeting prior to the meeting at which such changes would be voted upon by the membership. The proposed changes would move the annual budget meeting to be held in December. This would allow the budget to be set before the membership renewal process begins, so that the membership fee rates could be set in contemplation of the budget prior to the commencement of the membership renewal period. There was

discussion regarding how this change would result in a then-current board creating a budget that would be inherited by a new board, and the definition of the Budget Committee membership that would allow for the new board to participate in the budget process and allow for timely development of the budget and a continuity of approach. The budget proposal would also remove references to outdated technology (e.g, Walkman, CD players, etc).

- Paul Sakson discussed the club's current logo, signage, and clothing, noting that the club's logo and imagery had not been refreshed in several years. Paul reported that the board had identified a volunteer graphics artist to provide suggestions in this area. Paul explained that possible updates would be shared with the membership. Discussion ensued regarding one of the club's logos (the bicycle with "JSTS" embedded within its design). There was also discussion about how if there were new logos and kit designs, some members might not want to incur the expense of new kits. The annual updates made by some other clubs to their kits were discussed. It was noted that the club currently does not profit from clothing sales, but it could be considered in the future.
- Pat Perrella gave a welcome on behalf of the club to new members, and discussed possible calls for new members on specific topics that could be arranged in the coming weeks. Pat provided a tour of the website and discussed some specific club activities that could be of interest to new members. During the presentation, there was a discussion about rides posted with multiple versions of the route, and how this is potentially confusing. Barb Bennett noted that routes posted often have multiple rides, and that the exact route for some listed events are decided at the time of the ride, such as certain Manasquan Reservoir and Allaire rides. For others, the ride leader sends out an e-mail earlier in the week. It was recommended that riders download the various routes for a scheduled ride prior to the ride.
- Howard Kradjel reported on the activities of the Bike Advocacy and Community Outreach committee. Howard described how that committee works with the League of American Bicyclists, local planning boards, the New Jersey Bike and Walk Coalition. Howard noted that our club works to advance safe cycling by example, with our members exhibiting courteous and safe cycling on our rides. He also described his committee's involvement with local communities on topics such as the NJ Safe Passing Law. Working with the police in Middletown Township, the committee was able to have a signboard on bike safety placed. Ward noted that the committee had developed a toolkit and an elevator pitch, and needed our members to become involved with their community leaders to advance safe cycling.
- Ward also noted that the Ride of Silence, which raises awareness of the importance of drivers and cyclists being alert and cautious on the roads and remembering cyclists who have been injured or killed while riding, will be held at 7pm on Wednesday May 17th, with details available on the ride calendar.

- Ward noted that his committee welcomes participation from all members, and that the committee's activities and progress are based on the level of member participation.
- Jean Roy noted that the clothing store is now open through May 21. Jean noted that this year there will be reduced shipping costs for single items. He noted that there are no profits to the club or any club members from the clothing sales. Jean noted the upcoming fitting sessions and that the Lighthouse and Retro designs were again available. Orders should ship approximately 7 weeks from the close of the online clothing store.
- Paul Sakson explained that there was nothing to report from the Budget Committee.
- Rob Nuara reported on communications, noting that the Paceline had been redesigned for the May publication and now resembles a magazine. Rob noted that the continued quality and success of the Paceline relies on member participation - members writing, posting pictures. Rob welcomed all kinds of content, including member profiles. Paul Sakson noted the club's social media as well, and encouraged members to post to these sites as well.
- There was nothing to report from the Election Committee.
- There was nothing to report from the Information Technology Committee.
- With respect to Membership, in response to a question, Pat Perrella displayed the April membership report, which showed 365 current members and 307 paid memberships.
- Barb Bennett gave an update on the activities of the Rides Committee. The ride calendar now shows the schedules rides through the end of June and the July/August calendar is being developed now. Barb noted the Belmar Seafood Festival ride on May 20, the Summer Tour June 22 – 26, and the Century Ride, which is usually on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend and for which the route is now being planned. Rob Nuara asked that if there are non-JSTS rides or events that could be of interest to members that the members share the information with him for inclusion in the Paceline.
- Sheryl Nishiura reported on the club's social activities. She noted that, after several postponements, the club held its Champagne Ride on May 7, and had about 50 riders join in the post-ride gathering. She noted that there is still a need for a member to host the planned summer picnic. Also, there was discussion of a potential in-person membership meeting in the future.
- Pat Perrella updated the group on the activities of the Ride Leaders and Safety Committee, noting the recent panel discussion on cycling safety. Pat noted that he is working with the club's first recent sponsor, B3 Cycling, on an in-person safety meeting. Pat also noted the upcoming session with the League of American Bicyclists on May 21. There was some general discussion about how members should select the group with

which they ride, and whether or not riders would be “dropped” if they fall behind, and about how to download the routes for the rides.

- After asking whether there were additional questions, and hearing none, Paul Sakson suggested a motion to adjourn, which was made by Rob Leitner and seconded by Eric Bonett, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:10 pm.
- The next membership meeting is currently scheduled for September 11, 2023.