

Chicago Area Tandem Society (CATS)

Annual Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2016

Next meeting: Chili Pumpkin Ride, October 23, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 2:31 PM by Hank Gentry, President, with 33 members in attendance.

I. Introductions:

Hank introduced the board members. Attendees introduced themselves and Doug and Lara Johnson were welcomed as new members.

II. Meeting Minutes:

The meeting minutes for the 2015 Chili Pumpkin Ride and election of officers have been posted on the club web site. Minor corrections were made and the minutes were approved unanimously as corrected.

III. By-Laws Changes:

Changes to the By-Laws regarding officers' terms of office were discussed and were approved unanimously.

IV. Financial:

A. Budget:

Copies of the proposed budget were distributed by Mary Jane Cross, Treasurer, and she discussed budget preparation. She has found an extra \$330 in the checkbook and we currently have almost \$12,000 in the bank. \$7,300 of that amount came from MTR.

B. Insurance:

The club's insurance costs have increased from \$2.80 per member to \$3.53 per member. Indemnity insurance for the officers is \$575.

C. LAB, RideIllinois, and ATA Organizational Involvement:

The club decided to continue support of the League of American Bicyclists (LAB), RideIllinois (formerly League of Illinois Bicyclists), and the Active Transportation Alliance (ATA). LAB contributions are based on the number of club members while RideIllinois and ATA are given \$100 each year. CATS member Bob Hoel is currently president of the board of directors for ATA.

D. Budget Approval:

Ford Sakata raised the question about bike brochures to be distributed to bike stores who sold tandems. Barry Cohen said he still had some hang tags to attach to tandems in stores. Ford will explore getting the brochures and hang tags, offering a free one-year membership to the club with the purchase of a tandem. A motion was made and approved to move \$200 into membership development and publicity. The budget was approved as amended.

V. Special Rides:

A. Blind Stoker Rides:

John Loesch reported on the Blind Stoker Rides which he has been leading since 1997. The first ride is Bike The Drive. Because of the expense of the ride registration, John would like to help defray the cost for the captains. Carol Cohen made the motion to give each volunteer captain \$10 from our budget and it was approved. All other blind stoker rides and information can be found on the club web site.

B. Prairie State Tandem Rally:

No one has come forth to plan and run the Prairie State Tandem Rally as yet.

C. MTR 2015 Addendum:

The Olsens hosted the volunteer party. Everyone had a great time. We took in over \$65,000 gross and our expenses were around \$58,000, resulting in a commendable \$7,000 to fund the club in the future.

D. M-22 Ride:

Jim Click announced that the 2016 M-22 ride in Michigan will be held September 11 – 17. It is 150 mile ride mostly along the shoreline of the Great Lakes.

VI. Communications Report:

Sam Waterstreet discussed our club communications. He has been running the web site for a number of years and would like some relief. He suggested we all view the TED talk “Inside the Mind of a Master Procrastinator.” We discussed distribution of the membership list to our members only and Dave Dockstader will use our Mail Chimp account to accomplish that. Everyone was asked to send stoker phone numbers to Mary Jane Cross to complete our membership list. Jim Click volunteered to take over Communications, provided that Sam would train him. Sam readily agreed.

VII. Old Business:

A. CATS Jerseys:

Tom Masters has club jerseys available for \$25.

B. Publicity:

Ford Sakata is working on publicity for the club.

VIII. New Business:

A. Future of CATS:

The necessity of sponsoring an MTR every few years as a means of keeping club dues low and the club solvent was discussed. We have used the MTR as a periodic means of replenishing our treasury. Ford Sakata volunteered to take on MTR 2021 for CATS.

B. Neighboring Clubs:

In an effort to support our neighboring tandem clubs, the following rides may be of interest to our members.

COWS	May 21 – 22	Spring Rally	Marshfield
	August 19 – 21	Fall Door County Ride	
HOOTS	???	Pre MTR Ride	
	???	Lafayette	

C. Ride Scheduling:

Mary Kohl brought up the issue of getting rides planned and published earlier to allow for summer scheduling. Sam Waterstreet will send out a message to all club members at the beginning of the year requesting that rides be posted by the end of February. That will allow for adequate time for scheduling. In addition, he will add a reminder to pay club dues so that we can get them in earlier than the first rides.

IX. Ride Schedule:

The following ride schedule has been set:

Hibachi Ride	May 1	Phil & Mary Kohl
Daffodil Ride	May 7	Bill & Karrie McDermott

Cal-Sag Bike Trail	May 15	Tim Coyne & Mary DeVoto
Blind Stoker Ride	May 29	John Loesch
South Fox River Ride	June 11	Bruce Kuehl & Mary Jane Cross
Blind Stoker Ride	June 25	John Loesch
Road to Ribs	June 26	Phil & Mary Kohl
Long Way to Long Grove Ride	July 9	Barry & Carol Cohen
Blind Stoker Ride	July 17	John Loesch
Back Forty Camp	July 23	Sam & Virginia Waterstreet
Back Forty Ride	July 24	Sam & Virginia Waterstreet
Sweet Corn Ride	August 9	Larry & Barbara Fetzer
Pool Ride	August 13	Barry & Carol Cohen
Onion Pub Ride	August 20	Frank & Sheila Mueller
Blind Stoker Ride	August 20	John Loesch
Night Ride	August 20	John Loesch
Midwest Tandem Rally	September 2 - 5	PIGS
M-22 Ride	September 11 – 17	Jim & Karen Click
Blind Stoker Ride	September 18	John Loesch
Leaf Me Alone Ride	September 24	Frank & Sheila Mueller
Blind Stoker Ride	October 15	John Loesch
Chili Pumpkin Ride	October 23	Tom & Sherry Masters
Holiday Lights Ride	December 10	Ford & Lynn Sakata
Christmas Party	December 11	Frank & Sheila Mueller

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Dockstader
Secretary