

The Village Bicycle Club

08/Jan/2018 Meeting Minutes

The January meeting of The Village Bicycle Club was opened with the pledge of allegiance led by Paul Ratliff.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Gribble reported the checking account balance is \$1765.35. The Christmas party cost \$20. Insurance costs for the current year will be about \$1174. Finances are in good shape with expected income of about \$1200.

Bike Club Jerseys: Phil Ruppert reviewed that VOMax jerseys with club logo can be ordered for \$70. Regular and bib shorts also available. See Phil if you wish to be added to the next order.

MVP Corporate Discount: Enrollment cost is \$0 vs \$100 regular. Monthly cost is \$49 plus tax vs \$59 plus tax regular for a single and \$75 plus tax vs. \$102 plus tax for a couple. Linda Schmalz can provide you with more details.

Organizing The Ride Start: We would like the club to get in the habit of forming into discrete groups to help organize the ride start. Please exit the parking lot at the north side to avoid the stop sign and cross traffic on the recreation center access road. Six pace groups from social (10 – 13 mph) to A+ (22 – 27 mph) are offered, but not all may be available at every ride. Groups are formed to accommodate the riders who show up to ride. Choose the group you can stay with, not that you aspire to. Please limit group size to 11 for the safety of the group and courtesy to motorists. Note that it is difficult even for a group as small as 6 to navigate a roundabout without splitting and regrouping, especially during the high traffic season. C, B, and Social rides are NO DROP rides. E bikes should maintain the pace of the group they joined.

Florida Bicycle Safari: Morgan Jenkins explained that this year Florida Bicycle Safari will be April 14 to April 19. It is limited to 250 riders. The ride starts in Suwannee County at the fairgrounds in Live Oak, Florida. Riders stay in Live Oak and then Cherry Lake. There is a 3 day and 6 day option. The cost is \$480 for 6 days. Sign up directly on the Florida Bicycle Safari web site.

Main Presentation: Club member Steve Agronick representing David's World Cycle (Wildwood) gave a presentation on Trek brand E-Bikes. These are pedal assist bicycles and the electric boost is governed at either 20 or 28 mph. The bicycles use Bosch motors and batteries.

Typically 4 levels of boost can be selected to amplify your pedaling power. They allow you to ride at greater speed and longer distance for the same amount of work. They have been described as an equalizer. The range is 20 to 100 miles, depending on how the boost is used on a ride. 11 gear speeds on the rear wheel are used. Recharge time is 3 to 5 hours and there are 600 to 700 cycles in a full battery life. The battery weighs about 6 pounds and the cost for a replacement or a spare battery is about \$700. Like all new technology, the price is coming down.

Trek started with E-Bikes in Europe about 10 years ago. There is a lifetime warranty on the aluminum frame and a 2 year warranty on the motor. There is a 1 year warranty on the battery. Steve brought a number of bicycles to examine and one on a trainer to pedal and test. Bring your pedals and visit David's World Cycle in Wildwood for a test ride. Our thanks to Steve for the presentation.

At this point the meeting was adjourned for refreshments and socializing.

Bob Kraus
Secretary