

## DRAFT MINUTES

### *BTAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING* Monday, September 10, 2007 8:00 AM EST Place Bonaventure, Montreal, Quebec

#### 1. Opening remarks

BTAC president, Paul Nielson, wished a good morning and welcomed everyone to AGM. He introduced the members that were on the podium with him, Executive Director, Janet O'Connell, and Director Paul Dragon. Paul announced that Lorie Griffith, Secretary Treasurer, had resigned and thanked her for her contribution to BTAC. Paul announced that in August the executive members were notified of auditors report. BTAC retailers are entitled to 1 vote at this meeting. Meeting called to order. Vice President, Paul Dragon noted that a quorum of eligible members was met.

#### 2. Approval of Annual General Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2006

MOVED Paul Dragon, Vice President and seconded by Pete Lily, owner of Sweet Pete's Bike Shop, Toronto, THAT the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of September 12, 2006 be approved as circulated. CARRIED

#### 3. Presidents Report

Paul Neilson presented the President's report. He stated that at the planning session that took place in March, various topics were discussed. Meaningful long term goals were discussed and how the Board would translate this to staff and launch new programs with BTAC. This business is the livelihood of everyone in this room and we need to move it forward.

#### 4. Treasurers Report

##### (a) 2006 audited financial statements

Vice President, Paul Dragon, reported that the fiscal year 2005 proved successful for BTAC despite containing its share of challenges. All members were notified of the availability of the 2006 audited financial statements reporting a net excess of revenues over expenditures of \$47,995. The financial statements contain the actual revenue and expense figures for the 2006 fiscal year. Board and staff closely monitor the Association's financial affairs while implementing business plans designed to increase BTAC's financial well being. The objective is to carefully review expenses and resources while prioritizing those programs that will create the greatest benefit and value to our members.

The association's auditors, Rumley & Chuggares, have audited the financial statements for the 2006 fiscal year. Members are also advised that the Treasurer chaired the BTAC Audit Committee that worked closely with the auditors in advance of presenting the financial statements to the BTAC Board. These statements are accompanied by a clean report from our auditors. The statements were approved by the Board of Directors on June 20<sup>th</sup> and all members were notified of their availability. Paul noted that on the Statement of Financial Position on page 2, Total Assets now stand at \$1,028,224, as opposed to \$500,198 in 2006. The shift largely reflects an improvement in our increased revenue and for dates of ExpoCycle invoicing for the year. On the Statement of Operations on page 3, Revenues were \$845,994 for the year, an increase of \$45,705 from last year. As noted earlier, our cash position is sound. Furthermore, the Board has approved a modest budget surplus of \$37,158 for the current 2007 fiscal year.

No Questions.

##### (b) Appointment of auditors for 2007

MOVED by Paul Dragon, Reckless Bike Shops and SECONDED by Rick Snyder, Mike's Bike Shop, to approve the appointment of Rumley & Chuggares as BTAC's auditors for 2007. CARRIED

#### 5. Executive Directors Report

Paul Neilson then called upon Janet O'Connell, Executive Director to give her report. Janet stated that much was done this year: Uniting Canada, strategic meeting with staff and Board, long term goals and is happy with direction. Usman Valiante was contracted to work with government, a poster campaign on PST exemption on bikes in BC. This was the first full year of data - one objective was for retailers to report data, one major supplier did not report. Objective: getting reports in a timely fashion and getting quarterly report ready to go. Also, getting smaller retailers to report data.

We launched a grant program to give grass roots efforts some of those grant. November 2007 will be taking first applications for grants and in January 2008 will announce grant winners. Retail Membership: bigger focus

on this effort. Lindsay Johnson is the membership coordinator. We are looking for input and add more services. Thanks to the Board of Directors and noted that the change from 6 directors to 8 directors are very positive, also noted that all volunteers give lots of time and effort. Thanks to Paul Neilson.

Usman Valiante reported that in March 2007 the Board of Directors and staff met in Vancouver. BTAC involved in cycling advocacy. Get more people on more bikes, more often. Role: aggressively put BTAC on map - in front of Legislator, with grassroots and with different levels of government. Liberals have exempted GST on helmets, BTAC prime partner with Toronto for Bike Month, and why government should support bikes, retailer's key in the advocacy. Usman stated, people have been waiting for an organization like BTAC to step up and get involved.

## **6. Nominating Committee Report**

Paul Dragan, Chair of the Nominating Committee reported on the process of identifying the selection of candidates for the Board of Directors. He advised the members that an open call for nominations was issued in July for members interested in and eligible for service on the BTAC Board.

Mr. Dragon noted that in July, members received a report outlining the nominating process, the Board composition. As no formal process had been adopted and a number of nominations were received the Board agreed to have a fax in vote by the members. The results were recorded and the ballots scrutinized by Irene Moyes, Bicycle Retailer and Industry News, Scott Turner, All-Risk Insurance with Paul Neilsen, Paul Dragan, Kevin MacNaughton and Janet O'Connell present. The results of the vote were as follows;

The new Board Members serving the first year of a two term are:

Retailers:

David Legare, Mathieu Performance, Quebec, QC  
Martin Velland, Vellend Tech, Toronto, ON

Rick Snyder, Mike's Bike Shop, Dieppe, NB  
Pete Lily, Sweet Pete's Bike Shop, Toronto, ON

Re-elected

Paul Dragon, Reckless Bike Shop  
Jacob Heilbron, The Bicycle Group (Kona)

Serving by virtue: Janet O'Connell

Janet O'Connell announces that Board of Directors will meet after AGM to elect new President.

## **Member Questions**

- (1) Don Waterman, Curbside, asked whether Usman Valiante was a part time advocate or is he working full time? Paul Neilson responded he is contracted to us and working many hours.
- (2) Mike Devisser, OHM BC, commented that in BC there is no PST on bikes, however there is on E-Bikes. He sent a letter to government to remove this PST - no reply. He is hopeful that they might remove. These are classified as bikes by Federal. Janet asked him to follow up with Usman and send a copy of his letter to her and Usman.

There being no further questions, Paul thanked everyone and noted small ideas take root and turn out very positively. As a group we make a real positive and we have communication with all levels of industry and government. "I respect all that we have been doing and please communicate and issues or comments to BTAC. Janet announces that Expocycle 2008 will be in Montreal, Sept, 7,8,9, 2008. Survey of suppliers and retailers voted overwhelmingly for Montreal.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Paul Neilson, Norco, BTAC president adjourned the meeting at 8:40 AM.