

Minutes: Segway Riders Club of the Villages Membership Meeting

January 20, 2016

The meeting commenced at the SeaBreeze Regional Recreation Center at 10:06 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: President Ken Redding, Vice President Tom Kroener, Secretary Art Timko, Treasurer Steve Stein, Membership Director Cricket McGinness, and Members At-large John Dean, Vicki Luntzel, and Bruce McGinness.

There were 94 members present.

Former President Matt Friedland opened the meeting by thanking Doran Bronshtein for his work in designing and implementing the new Club website. Matt then introduced the new Board of Directors, elected in November 2015 (members note above).

Ken Redding thanked Matt for his visionary efforts during the transition from an informal club run by its founders, Tom and Barbara Davis, to a smoothly operated, growing organization complete with by-laws, functioning Board of Directors and committee structure.

The minutes of the December 2015 meeting were approved as posted on the website.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Stein presented the Treasurer's Report. The beginning balance was \$9,710.44. Income: \$462 (\$340=dues, \$71=50/50, \$51=donations). Expenses: \$125.32 (\$75=Gift card for Dave/Sandy, \$33.32=coffee supplies, \$17=Lunch for Dave in Deland). Ending Balance: \$10,047.12 (\$6,628.06=total donations of which \$5,077.06 are current donations for a Segway, \$3,419.06=working capital).

Officer & Board Member Reports: Cricket asked the 21 new members of the Club to stand and introduce themselves. Cricket explained the process of dues renewal and receiving the website password, used in registering for Boot Camp and Club outings.

Bruce thanked the trainers for helping during Boot Camp and outings and particularly for being available on short notice requests. He further described changes in Boot Camp with the addition of exercises that trained riders in negotiating narrow pathways and over roots and other obstructions. There will also be more repetitions of certain exercises to ensure familiarity with those maneuvers.

Committee Reports:

Social Committee: Debbie Brookshire described the status of the Club dinner. It will occur on Monday, February 29 at Francesco's Restaurant on Rte 441. There are currently 49 reservations for the 80 available spaces. Members were asked to sign-up as soon as possible. Marie Anderson asked for volunteers to sign up to provide treats/snacks at monthly meetings. 15 members are needed yet for this year with three persons providing these items during each high season meeting.

Outings Committee: Art Timko described the dates and locations for upcoming rides. They include:

Monday February 8th 9 a.m. (ride #1) and 1 p.m. (ride #2). If demand warrants more rides, they will be Tuesday February 9th at 9 a.m., then 1 p.m. The site is St. Augustine.

Overnight accommodations for those staying over can be secured at the Best Western across from the Visitors' Center. The special rate of \$109, plus tax is good until January 27. To date there are nine reservations for Sunday Feb. 7 and one for Monday Feb 8. Parking will likely be in the parking lot of the St. Augustine Distillery. Parking is being secured with the expectation that riders will take the distillery tour at the conclusion of their ride. The tour offers information about the distillery, a tasting and an opportunity to buy product in the gift shop. Riders are requested to "tip" the local Segway tour guide an additional \$5.00 cash at the conclusion of the tour. Finally, there will be a group dinner at the Columbia restaurant on Sunday Feb. 7 at 6pm. 20 people are registered at this point. Riders should notify Debbie Brookshire of their intention to attend the dinner and stay over at the Best Western. Contact information would be helpful. Confirmation on all arrangements will be forthcoming the week prior to the outing.

March 8th, 14th, 21st, & 29th are the dates in order for the March outing to Lake Beresford County Park and Blue Springs State Park. This is 12 mile ride on asphalt & boardwalk. The rides will be opened in date order as they fill. This is a level one ride.

April 18th, 19th, 25th, & 26th at Tarpon Springs. There will be overnight accommodation information released as soon as it is secured. Those planning to commute for the ride should plan on 90-120 minutes in transportation time from the Villages. The rides will be opened in date order as they fill.

May 16th, 23rd, 17th, and 24th will be a ride either in the Villages or at Mission Inn Resort (Howey-in-the-Hills). The rides will open in the order presented depending on demand. Details will be developed in the next couple of months. Either ride is a level one.

June dates are yet to be determined. The location is likely to be Baseline, north of Belleview.

Steve Stein described the process of using the website to participate in the carpool feature. Instructions are available on the website and all are encouraged to use this aspect of the website, especially in long distance rides, such as St. Augustine and Tarpon Springs.

Art passed along the offer from Segway Dave that encourages new riders to get practical experience. Those new members who complete Boot Camp are offered a 50% discount on the Mt. Dora tour if taken within 30 days of completing Boot Camp. This offer encourages new riders to acquire much needed practical experience riding the Segway prior to a Club outing.

Segway Experience: Ken explained the role of the Segway Experience in the Club's efforts to give back to the community. By raising money through offering Segway rides twice per year, the Club raises nearly enough money to buy a new Segway, which is then donated to a deserving mobility challenged Veteran. This year the first local recipient is Linda Strong. Volunteers are needed to help in several aspects of this project. A sign-up sheet is available for members to use. Matt Friedland is coordinating

the Villages Box Office and Flippers pizza donation. Bruce is arranging for coffee and donuts, while Steve is ordering flyers for distribution. The date is March 7 with a rain date of March 28.

Outdoor Expo: Sat/Sun Feb 27/28 is the Villages Outdoor Expo at the La Hacienda Recreational Center. This is a prime opportunity to advertise the Segway Experience. Volunteers have been scheduled and members are encouraged to visit the Club's display during the show.

New Business

New Member Orientation: Art described a document that is in the last stages of formulation which provides an introduction to the club for new members and supplemental information for those who have been members for some time. After a final review, the document will be available to all members via the website and for new members when they join.

Club Historian: The Club is attempting to document its history. One person has volunteered to be part of a small committee to work toward those ends. Other members who interested should contact one of the Board members.

Bruce described an effort to re-establish a Segway drill team. This group of 20 members will rehearse in the Villages and Mt. Dora for performances in Villages and local area parades, town squares and special events. Members who are interested should contact Bruce.

Today's (1/20/16) issue of the "Daily Sun," section D, page one has an archival photo and an article about the Segway Club entitled: "Segway Club Offers a Moving Experience."

Committee assignments: Ken announced the composition of the its three primary committees: Social (Debbie Brookshire, chair with Lorraine Walker Marie Andersen and Pat Stafford); Outings (Art Timko, chair with Tom Kroener, Ken Redding, Dave Sasenick, Debbie Brookshire, Frank Keen and John Hammock); and Elections (Debbie Brookshire, chair with Brian Carinder and Sallie McCarthy).

The Club flyer is being changed and the Club is working on obtaining flag type banners to advertise its presence at events and activities.

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.