

CYCLE NC 2020
MONTHLY PLANNING MEETING WITH TOURISM BOARD,
AREA BUSINESSES & NON-PROFITS

October 17,2019

Participants included Town Management, Tourism Board Members, local business owners, representatives from various area civic groups and local cyclists who participate in Cycle NC events. Discussion focused on issues we must address in hosting Cycle NC April 24-26, 2020 based on prior experiences here and learning from other host venues. We can anticipate about 1,500 people for the three-day event.

Our next planning meeting will be held at Town Hall on November 21, 8:15 am. A Keurig coffee maker with pods is provided in the Board Room– but you can bring your special brew if you like!

DISCUSSION POINTS

Finalizing Committees:

There was discussion of finalizing various operating committees for the event. These include Manning Visitors Tent, Manning Rest Areas, Providing Website Content (Pat Thomaier to forward info to Cycle NC), Accommodations and Campsites (Diane Miller to coordinate), Music & Entertainment (Doug Sligh to coordinate).

Event Info via Phone Apps: Pat noted that info for the event must be to Cycle NC early March to create daily “bulletins” and updates via phone app for cyclists. These will include accommodations info, special activities and daily events, town and route maps, parking and camping info, shop specials, entertainment etc.

We need to be sure to provide a link to TownDock.net in the Cycle NC app.

Town Maps: Bill Wheeler (Town Map “Meister”) will update the town map as needed for the Cycle event – RV parking, campsites, food courts, etc.

Rest Stops: Need to determine number of rest stops, locations, number of volunteers needed. This info to come from Cycle NC. Marsha Palpham will contact Chip at Cycle NC for routes – then recommend placement of rest stops and assign to various non-profits to “man”. Assume there will be more locations and volunteers needed for Saturday. It was noted that the stops are not appropriate for fundraising...but volunteers can promote their orgs (OFPMF, etc.) with signs or handouts.

Possible volunteers include Boy and Girl Scouts, Girls on the Run, ROTC.

Aid Stations: We need to know number of people needed and number of emergency locations from Cycle NC. It was suggested we recruit volunteer nurses from Carolina East.

Emergency Management: Dianne Miller and Allen Price will coordinate emergency planning and identify shelter locations for tornado, etc. Possible sites might be Old Theater and Methodist Church. Sites will be shown on the town map.

Enhanced Cell Coverage: Pat has let Chip know that we will need enhanced coverage and connectivity here for the event and he will follow-up on adding “hot spots”.

Garbology: Need someone to coordinate. Tom Cocoran was mentioned as a possible chair person. Tourism will fund the cost of trash collection.

Activities: Special activities which might be provided to cyclists and families include small boat sailing, kayaking, fishing guides, ghost walking tour, kid’s park, movies at Old Theater. John and Ellen Chappell to coordinate and compile activities list.

Restaurants & Shops: Pat Thomaier will coordinate with all local “eateries” for hours, specials, etc. “Grab & Go” is key during the event.

Radio Coverage: Tourism Board will provide \$500 for radio coverage. Marsha Palpham will coordinate on-site broadcasting from the event in Oriental.

Location of Food Services/Shower Trucks/Entertainment Venue: Placement of these services will be determined by Chip/Cycle NC. Doug Sligh will be involved with entertainment locations, Lili with Beer Garden, etc.

Commemorative Postcard: Marsha to contact Laura about creating a 2020 event postcard as a gift for all cyclists.

Discount Coupons: We need to solicit coupons, discounts, special offers from area businesses (Oriental, Bayboro and Grantsboro) to be provided to cyclists.

**The next Planning Meeting is scheduled for 8:15 on Thursday, November 21st
at Town Hall.**

Please invite anyone who may need to be involved in the 2020 event.

Notes submitted by Carol Mabe – Tourism Board