

General Meeting Minutes, December 9 2001

Attendance: Jen Staller, Alvaro Yurita, Nancy Gold, Noemi McKenzie, Jeff Decola, Mark Stallard, John Wichers, Sarah Curi, Lisa Nevin, Andrea Wood, Marshall Randolph, Dave Uhrenholdt, Steve Smith, Tom Keane, Susan Mix, Kevin Donohoe.

Introductions

Membership

Note from Susan: Lisa Nevin is our new Membership Director! Woo hoo! She plans to follow up on the items below and others with the membership team, which currently includes Andrea Wood, Andrea Leonard, Darrell Bibby, Susan Mix and Nancy Gold.

- We discussed having someone from the membership team at every event. Given that the current team is a good cross-section of the club this seems very doable.

- We plan to recruit new members at Skate Jam.

To do: Since Lisa may not be back in town in time for the Jan 4 Jam, she will delegate coordinating this to someone from the membership team. That person will bring whatever supplies are needed (including temp membership cards, application forms, t-shirts, renewal stickers, etc)

- Lisa suggested a new member skate to be held in the spring, preceded by free hour lesson. Certified instructors willing to donate an hour of their time?

- Lots of discussion of ICB Table (table staffed by ICBrs where people can get info about the club, instruction, places to skate, etc). Possible locations: on the MinuteMan Path in Arlington or Lexington, the Esplanade, or Mem Drive. Lisa is willing to set up in Lexington and hang out for an hour or so at a time. Mark, Jeff mentioned that the table on Mem Drive used to get a lot of traffic, because vendors were doing free skate rental so there were a lot of new skaters in the area. Also this location would be good in conjunction with NSP stopping clinics. But would we need a permit? Dave suggested talking to Charles River Conservancy, a group involved in an effort to close Greenough Blvd on Sundays to find out if we could set up on the Esplanade. Note from Susan: It might be worthwhile to contact that canoeing company (Charles River Canoe & Kayak Boston, <http://www.ski-paddle.com/cano/dboston.htm>) to see what sort of permit they have and if we could set up near their location.

- Winter party: Lisa volunteered to host at her house, or offered assistance for someone to plan elsewhere, possibly basement of Hard Rock café and/or upstairs in the Alley. A

space that could hold 50-75 people would let us organize something like the ICB Jeopardy game that Robin and Karin put together year before last.

Community Outreach

- Community events: Dave is interested in getting booth/table at Earthfest and World's Fair. This is more PR oriented than community outreach (although booth could provide safety as well as club info). Maybe share cost with MassBike and/or offer to patrol in exchange for booth space.

To do: Dave will find out costs of having booths at these events and report back at Feb meeting.

- MassBike: Steve (our MassBike liaison) noted that we became a member of MassBike and donated \$250 to sponsor them. Tom described past cooperative efforts with MassBike, this is our first formal (financial) commitment. Steve attended MassBike's annual meeting in November and would like to write an article for MassBike newsletter, maybe in conjunction with Dave. Steve reported that MassBike has received \$5000 grant for police education, are interested in getting our perspective and input on educating police about inline skate issues. This sounds like a good opportunity for us.

To do: Steve will follow up on the police education grant thing, also will contact Scott Osberg for information on accident statistics. Scott, Sarah also interested. Susan will add a link to Mass Bike on our site and Steve will check with Tim Cahill to make sure we're listed on their site.

- Boston police skating program: Last summer several ICB board members worked with Knapi Manes (a certified instructor) to provide weekly skating lessons to police staff at Boston Police Headquarters. The police were primarily interested in fitness as opposed to becoming "cops on skates" although that might become a possibility in the future. After approximately 6 weeks of instruction, none of the police skaters were prepared to join ICB group skates and the officer coordinating it had scheduling conflicts (vacation etc) so program was put on hold til next season. We see this as an important contact to continue. Jen volunteered to be the point person, Mark is interested in helping with instruction. We discussed having the police set specific goals, such as doing a segment of the COPS skate.

To Do: Kevin and/or Jon will meet with Jen (date to be determined at Feb meeting) to provide more background on what we did, what worked, what didn't etc and help her get started planning for this year.

- Safety initiative: Do another set of reflective stickers. People like these a lot, they're easy to hand out, they promote the club in addition to safety.

To do: Scott will get info on production from Tom, find out costs to produce, and report back at next meeting.

- Other safety: Sarah ran 4 ISIS (Inline Skating Is Safe) clinics, 2 at MOM, 2 at social skates(?). Participants enjoyed them, Sarah wants to keep doing them in 2002. This year she would like to provide information as well as instruction. We also discussed doing "something" for kids. Bike folks do a kids' clinic in Franklin park. The ICB does not plan to organize an event on its own, but would consider working with an existing event or alongside a skate manufacturer or retailer on an appropriate initiative (such as Mo Vaughn/Oxygen clinic a few years ago) if anyone is aware of one.

To do: Susan will do a web page that provides links to information on town safety fairs, education, town days, etc where there are opportunities to teach kids, for instructors who are interested in doing this.

Skating Events

Note: General discussion of summer events postponed until next meeting. Board voted to have team leaders (or their friends/close relatives/designated hitters) do short summaries of their plans for 2002 which will provide a framework for the discussion.

To do: Susan will send team leaders templates used in previous years.

- Skate Jam report: Skate Jams planned for Jan 4, Feb 23, March 16, April 6. Each will have a theme, with Jan 4 being patriotic. Other themes will include: beach, Saturday Night Fever, Latin. Music will be loosely tied to the theme. Jen would like to put a .pdf file on the ICB web site that people can print/copy and hand out for publicity. One change for this year: charge \$10 for non-members, \$5 members, \$3 for children, \$2 for skate rental. Plan is to give free admission to anyone who joins the ICB. The ICB will then give \$7 of the \$20 membership fee back to Skate Jam. This applies only to new memberships, not renewals. Membership team member(s) will be on hand to do new member signups. We then discussed a variety of funding/fundraising ideas, such as paying the DJ a flat fee + commission based on attendance. Have \$ levels set ahead of time. Another idea is to have a 50-50 raffle in addition to the regular raffle. Raffle prizes could include 1 new membership or tshirt, plus whatever other sponsors will donate. Possible new sponsors Wachusett or Illuminite?

To do: Jen will send Susan a .pdf file for uploading to the web site. Skate Jam team will work out the details of raffles, sponsors, tshirt design contest etc. Membership team will make sure someone is at each SkateJam to handle new member signups/renewals.

- Winter events: Ideas include holding an ICB day at Hudson (speed skating), ICB day at Weston (xc skiing), publicizing the Florida Eskate, Tahiti trip.

To do: Marshall will contact Mark Jacobson at Weston ski track to find out about xc skiing. Susan will add info on winter events to web site as she receives it. Noemi will find out about having an ICB day at Illuminite.

Communication

- ICB cards: to be handed out at Jan Skate Jam
- Newsletter: general consensus is to stay with current format of 4 online issues/year. Looking for new volunteers for writing, editorial tasks.
- Posters: create a .pdf for full-color poster

Tentative date of next meeting: February 17

Updated May 3, 2002 - Susan Mix