

Bicycle Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes for November 3, 2008
Submitted by John Dempsey

The meeting took place in the Devotion School Library at 7:05 P.M.
Present: Mitch Heineman, Harry Margolis, Tommy Vitolo, John Dempsey, Don
McNamara, Cynthia Snow
Public: Sam Comerchero, Rebecca Albrecht, Jackie Douglas
Handouts: Agenda, Minutes from October 6, 2008 Meeting

The minutes from the October meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Welcome New Members

- Cynthia Snow and Don McNamara were welcomed.

Meet Jackie Douglas From Livable Streets Alliance

- LSA is an urban planning advocacy and education group focusing on transportation.
- Has been in existence for about three years. Relies on private donations.
- Space rented from MIT on Sydney Street, Central Square, Cambridge
- Involved in the Commonwealth Ave. improvements.

Planning was in progress before they knew about it.

Once the news broke the advocacy community became heavily involved.

That led to bike lanes and bike racks.

Observational/anecdotal evidence is that bicycling on Commonwealth Ave. has
mushroomed since the addition of lanes and rack.

- We promised to have a LivableStreets.info link on our website.
- What else does Livable Streets Alliance have to offer?

Online calendar

Clearinghouse for groups and information

Monthly newsletter

Weekly Street News

Street Talk Series (next one is November 20)

Street Films ("Parking" Space, Alewife Bike Cage)

- Contact Jackie at Jackie@LivableStreets.info.

Report on Transportation Board Meeting – Heineman, Vitolo, McNamara

- Report well received.
- They will put the CIP list on their November 20 agenda.
- They will vote on the proposal and vote to go to the Board of Selectmen.

Report on CIP Recommendations/Carlton Street Redesign - Vitolo

- Carlton Street from Mountfort to Longwood is getting attention.
- Peter Furth, Tommy Vitolo, and Kurt Fraser went out to measure areas and make recommendations.
- DPW will present their findings/recommendations

- One recommendation may be for “bike boxes” at intersections.

Bike Racks - Vitolo

- Process is going slowly – two-year cycle, money/budget are tenuous.
- Tommy and Harry will talk to Todd Kirrane about a policy for accepting gifts of bike racks from private entities.
- BU just started a bike committee. They are working on more bike racks.

Website Update – Vitolo

- It is still on TommyVitolo.com website.
- Tommy will move information over from netcipia site.
- Don can help.
- Our site should be attached to the DPW site and have a bike committee mission statement.
- Mitch has already compiled good statements from other committees.
- “Any respectable town should have a good site linked to the DPW site.”

Bike Parade – Dempsey

- We will run it on Sunday, May 17, 2009, or a date in June.
- John will be out of town on May 17.
- 12:30 P.M. start.
- John will meet with the police on Wednesday, November 15 at 9:30 A.M.
- Mitch will check calendar for conflicts (e.g. AIDS Walk)
- John will check availability of Amory Playground.
- John will meet with the Fitness Fair planning group on November 18 at 11:00 A.M.

Column in Brookline TAB – Heineman

- Send thoughts to Mitch.
Some ideas: bike registration, bike racks, bike parade, winter biking, bike counts, five things for riders, five things for drivers, Q and A, pedestrian perspectives, getting started again, lights
- Mitch will write some columns to get started.
- John will e-mail to Mitch some examples of the Recycling Corner for style and word count.

December Meeting Date

- Peter will be speaking in Newton on December 1.
- We will meet on December 8.
- John will secure a room at Devotion.

Assignments:

- John will book Devotion for December 8
- John will send to Mitch some Recycling Corners
- Mitch will write up 2-3 Bicycle Corners.
- Don will work with Tommy on the website. (LSA link, Netcipia wording, mission, bike count info)

- Harry and Tommy will work with Todd on a policy for private purchase of bike racks.
- John will meet with the police about the parade.
- John will meet with the Fitness Fair people.
- John will check availability of Amory Playground or Waldstein Playground for Bike Parade start and finish.

Adjournment:

We adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 8, 2008, at 7 P.M.

Location: Devotion School

Open Meeting Rules

- A meeting must be posted to the Town Calendar at least one week before the meeting is to take place.
- Must include time, location, and agenda in pdf format, contact person, and contact e-mail address.
- Within two subsequent meetings we must post to the website a copy of the minutes in pdf format.
- An email will be sent to all TMM and other officials about the meeting.
- Therefore, Todd needs information from BAC 1 ½ weeks before the meeting.