

## **Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)**

Meeting Minutes for February 2, 2009

Submitted by John Dempsey

The meeting took place in the Devotion School Library at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Harry Margolis, Tommy Vitolo, John Dempsey, Don McNamara, Cynthia Snow, Peter Furth (Transportation Board)

Public: Sam Comerchero, Rebecca Albrecht, Lauren DiLello (BU), Desiree Johnson (BU)

Handouts: Agenda, Minutes from 1/5/09, draft of policy for private donations of public bicycle racks

### **The minutes from the January 2009 meeting were approved.**

#### **Welcome new participants**

- Lauren DiLello and Desiree Johnson from Boston University were welcomed.

#### **Complete report on Article 11 recommendation**

- Mr. Vitolo reported that he spoke with David Watson of MassBike about bicycle registration. Mr. Watson told him that bicycle registration was stricken from the bicycle safety bill that was recently passed by the Legislature.
- The Committee decided that that information should be shared orally with the Transportation Board when we present our recommendation.
- Mr. Dempsey suggested that the BAC should try to get on one of the BATV (Brookline Access Cable Television) discussion programs (e.g. Seymour Ziskend or Don Weitzman).
- Mr. Vitolo will approach Don Weitzman for advice about BAC appearing on a cable television show.
- The BAC voted unanimously to send the Memo of Recommendation about Article 11 to the Transportation Board.

#### **Report on CIP recommendations - Vitolo**

- Mr. Vitolo reported that a majority of the CIP Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee recommended the Town begin to fund infrastructure improvements to enhance the safety of bicyclists, pedestrians, and motor vehicle operators as per BAC Greenway Plan.
- Mr. Furth recommended that the BAC ask the Transportation Board for an update of the BAC plan.
- Mr. Margolis will ask for time on the next Transportation Board agenda to discuss the Article 11 recommendation and the Greenway Plan.

#### **Bike Racks – Snow**

- Ms. Snow submitted a draft of a policy for private donations for public racks. She reported that she talked with the Parks Division about their policy. There is a more

complicated situation, so it might be best for us to construct our own policy and share ideas with the Parks Division.

- Members suggested adding the following: “post and hitch racks,” “Notification should be given to the Bicycle Advisory Committee about rack placement requests.” and “Racks were installed in 2007 and 2008.”
- Members felt that the draft should be sent to Todd Kirrane once the minor changes were made.

#### **Website and Friends of Bicycle Advisory Committee e-mail list – McNamara**

- Mr. McNamara reported: We have a website! Ms. Snow entered 184 e-mail addresses of those who registered on paper at the bicycle parade. Mr. Vitolo has addresses of those who registered online.
- Mr. Dempsey submitted an e-mail message to Mr. McNamara and Mr. Vitolo announcing the 2009 parade and calling for volunteers. He will expand on that message.
- Mr. McNamara will create the list for the different levels of interest: The BAC, The Friends of BAC (monthly updates, approved minutes, alerts, etc) and Brookline people who bicycle (parade announcements, maybe 3-4 times/year, etc.)

#### **May Bike Parade – Dempsey**

- We will run it on Sunday, May 31, 2009, at 12:30 P.M.
- Start and finish will be at either Amory or Waldstein. Prefer Amory Playground.
- Mr. Dempsey will send to members the electronic images of possible poster design from the New England Institute of Art.
- Mr. Dempsey outlined a proposal for a co-parade option for youngest children.
- Mr. Dempsey will check with town officials about allowing vendors to sell safety equipment at the bike parade.
- Ms. Albrecht is organizing vendors for ice cream at the post-parade function.
- Mr. Dempsey will solicit more parade volunteers.

#### **Column in Brookline TAB – Heineman**

- Mr. Heineman was not at the meeting, but we think he is all set for the next issue of the Muddy Rider.

#### **Organizing a Brookline chapter of Livable Streets Alliance - Vitolo**

- No meeting has taken place yet.
- Mr. Vitolo is looking for someone with the passion to organize and lead such a group.

#### **March Meeting Date**

- We will meet on Monday, March 2, 2009, at 7 P.M. at Devotion School.

#### **New business**

- Mr. Furth reported about the Boston Bikes forum at Boston Public Library.
- Mr. Vitolo reported about the DCR plans for the BU and Craigie Bridge.
- Mr. Furth reported that he met with the bicycle advocates in Newton. They would like to get together with Brookline. He suggested a Monday evening.

- Mr. Furth reported about the projects the Northeastern engineering students are working on.

### **Assignments:**

- Mr. Vitolo will ask Don Weitzman for advice about BAC appearing on a cable television show.
- Mr. Margolis will ask for time on the next Transportation Board agenda to discuss the Article 11 recommendation and the Greenway Plan.
- Ms. Snow will send the bike rack protocols to Todd Kirrane once the minor changes are made.
- Mr. McNamara will create the list of e-mail addresses for the different levels of interest: The BAC board, The Friends of BAC (monthly updates, approved minutes, alerts, etc.) and Brookline people who bicycle (parade announcements, maybe 3-4 times/year, etc.)
- Everyone will look at the site and give Mr. McNamara constructive criticism.
- Mr. Dempsey will work with Mr. McNamara on the volunteer message.
- Mr. Dempsey will send electronic images of possible poster design from the New England Institute of Art.
- Everyone will look at the possible poster designs and give Mr. Dempsey constructive criticism.
- Mr. Dempsey will continue to work on a proposal for a co-parade option for the younger children.
- Mr. Dempsey will check with town officials about allowing vendors to sell safety equipment at the bike parade.
- Mr. Furth will ask his daughter if she will run the children's parade.
- Ms. Albrecht will organize vendors for ice cream at the post-parade function.
- Mr. Dempsey will solicit more parade volunteers.
- Mr. Vitolo will look for someone with the passion to organize and lead a Livable Streets Brookline group.

### **Adjournment:**

We adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

### **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 Kirrane needs information from BAC 1 ½ weeks before the meeting.