The Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) Meeting Minutes for April 6, 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, Mitch Heineman, Peter Furth (Transportation Board)
Public: Sam Comerchero, Rebecca Albrecht, Dan Delaskey (NU), James Turnbull (NU), Filipe Vieira (NU), Justin Cohen (NU)

Handouts: Agenda, Minutes from 3/2/09

The minutes from the March 2, 2009, meeting were approved.

Welcome new participants
• We welcomed the Northeastern University team members who are studying bicycling improvements for Lee Street/Clyde Street.

NU Student Lee/Clyde Project - Furth
• Northeastern University senior engineering students presented drawings, explanations, and arguments for bicycling improvements to Lee Street and Clyde Street.
• They explained that they looked at three options: bike lanes on either side of the roads, a bike path down the middle of the roads, and a service road along the even-numbered side of the roads.
• They decided on a service road solution and presented those drawings.
• Bicycle Advisory Committee members asked questions for clarification and made suggestions.
• The students will make a final presentation at Northeastern in late April.

Carlton Street - Furth
• The Transportation Board made two suggestions: 1) seek an alternative route to connect the Muddy River Path and the Charles River Path and 2) talk to the Cottage Farm neighbors.
• Mr. Vitolo suggested that our target group is not only families and young adults but also “reluctant commuters” and “reluctant errand-runners.”
• One suggestion was a route northbound from the Muddy River Path to Chapel Street to Longwood Avenue to a right on Kent Street and straight on Powell Street to Freeman Street, to Amory Street, to Worthington Street, to Essex Street.
• That Kent/Powell route between the Muddy River and the Charles River is about ¼ mile longer and hillier than the Carlton Street route.
• There was general agreement that the Carlton Street route is the best.
• Mr. Furth will write a report outlining the Committee's concerns about the Kent Street alternative.

Transportation Board Meetings - Furth
• The bicycle registration proposal will be discussed at the April 16 meeting
• Ms. Snow will represent the Bicycle Advisory Committee

May Bike Parade – Dempsey
• Sunday, May 31, 2009, at 12:30 P.M.
• Start and finish will be at Amory Playground.
• Mr. Dempsey showed the posters (300) and the postcards.
• Mr. Dempsey outlined a proposal for a co-parade option for youngest children through the Cottage Farm neighborhood.
• Mr. Dempsey will get approval for the release form from Town Counsel.
• Everyone will solicit more parade volunteers.
• Mr. Heineman will solicit volunteers from his company.
• Mr. Dempsey will coordinate with the Parks Division for supplying ice cream sandwiches and popsicles and water for 1000 people.
• Mr. Dempsey will coordinate with the Parks Division for hiring a band to entertain at the end of the Bike Parade and the celebration of the reopening of Amory Playground.

**Website and Friends of Bicycle Advisory Committee e-mail list – McNamara**
• Mr. McNamara will try to get the website operational before the Bike Parade.

**Bicycle-related Accidents**
• Bicycle Advisory Committee asked to be notified about any bicycle-related accidents.
• Suggestion was made that we get the accident data dumped and we search that data for bicycle-related accidents.
• Mr. Furth will talk to Captain Gropman to see if we can get the data about bike accidents – as infrequent as they may be.

**Report on CIP recommendations - Vitolo**
• Mr. Furth met with Mr. Kirrane to go over the CIP.
• Nothing will happen until the department heads meet in three months.

**Bike Racks – Snow**
• Ms. Snow reported that Todd Kirrane approved the policy statement about purchasing by private entities of bike racks for public spaces.

**Climate Change Action Brookline – Furth**
• Climate Change Action Brookline (CCAB) points out that transportation adds to climate change.
• CCAB is incorporating transportation into a Community Block Grant ($600,000) for energy conservation.

**May Meeting Date**
• We will meet on Monday, May 4, 2009, at 7 P.M. at Devotion School.

**New business**
• Ms Albrecht spoke about Bike Benefits.org. For a nominal fee bicyclists get discounts at participating local businesses.

**Adjournment:**
We adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

**Assignments:**
• Mr. Furth will write a report outlining the Committee's concerns about the Kent Street alternative.
• Ms. Snow will represent the Bicycle Advisory Committee at the Transportation Board meeting on April 16, 2009.
• Mr. Dempsey will get approval for the Bike Parade registration/release form from Town Counsel.
• Everyone will solicit more parade volunteers.
• Mr. Heineman will solicit volunteers from his company.
• Mr. Dempsey will coordinate with the Parks Division for supplying ice cream sandwiches and popsicles and water for 1000 people.
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• Mr. Furth will talk to Captain Gropman to see if we can get the data about bike accidents – as infrequent as they may be.

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.