

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

Meeting Minutes for October 4, 2010

Submitted by John Dempsey

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

Present: Cynthia Snow, John Dempsey, Chris Dippel, Don McNamara,

Absent: Mitch Heineman, Tommy Vitolo, Bill Schwartz (Transportation Board Representative)

Public: Rebecca Albrecht, Peter Furth

Handouts: Agenda, Warrant article and State Law about transporting children on bicycles

The minutes from the September 13, 2010 meeting were approved.

Discussion about warrant article about transporting children on bicycles - Snow

- There is already state law about transporting children on bicycles.
- Ms. Snow went over the details of the state law.
- Advisory subcommittee will vet the warrant article on Tuesday, October 5 at 6:45 at Town Hall.
- Ms. Snow will draft a letter to the Advisory Committee and the Transportation Board stating BAC opposition to the warrant article: e.g. 1) absent any statistics that indicate a problem and 2) since state law is clear about transporting children on bicycles.

Discussion about Bike Counts - Snow

- Ms. Snow will update/format the 2010 counts.
- It was noted that bike parking at Brookline High and Coolidge Corner increased over 2009.

Discussion about the Green Routes Plan

- Discussion about a subcommittee updating the plan – what has been accomplished? Add more detail.
- Mr. Furth reported that Northeastern University students would be looking at a “D Line” route – Kent Street from Harvard Square/Brookline Village to Aspinwall Avenue.
- Ms Albrecht advocated for work on Park Street.
- Everybody should re-read the Green Routes Plan before the November meeting.
- Discussion about the South Brookline Greenway and how to get the community behind it.

Responding to inquiries - Snow

- When responding to email inquiries to BAC, please notify others so the effort is not duplicated.

Discussion about request from Climate Change Action Brookline for BAC participation in January 2011 event(s)

- A Green Routes presentation by Mr. Furth?
- Bicycle films?

Report about the Town’s new Open Space Plan – Dippel

- Green Routes map is included and provides good ideas.
- Plan must provide for access by bicyclists, pedestrians, and animals.

- Mr. Dippel is waiting for a draft to react to.

Report about recent events at which BAC participated – Snow/Dempsey

- Chamber of Commerce Green Expo – September 26
- Aspinwall Hill Neighborhood Association Green Fair – October 3

Showing of the BATV movie about the Beacon Street Bike Parade 2010 – Dempsey

- Filmed and edited by Andy MacBain of BATV.
- Has been submitted in a film competition.

Next Meeting

- We will meet next on Monday, November 1, 2010, at 7 P.M. at Devotion School.

Adjournment

- We adjourned at approximately 8:47 P.M.

Assignments

- Cynthia will draft a letter to the Transportation Board stating Bicycle Advisory Committee opposition to the warrant article about transporting children on bicycles.
- Cynthia will update the 2010 bike count information.
- Everyone will re-read the Green Routes Plan prior to the November 1 meeting.
- Everyone will think of an appropriate activity for BAC participation in CCAB January 2011 Climate Change Awareness week.

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.