

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

Meeting Minutes for April 2, 2012

Submitted by John Dempsey

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

Present: Cynthia Snow, Chris Dippel, Tommy Vitolo, Mitch Heineman, John Dempsey, Bill Schwartz (Transportation Board Representative)

Absent: Don McNamara  
Officer Sullivan (Police liaison)

Also Attending:

Public: Rebecca Albrecht, Joe Maranzano, Lee Selwyn, Neil Gordon, Bryan Decker, Blair Hines, Pete Stidman

Handouts: Agenda, Draft: Bikes on Sidewalks, Draft: Bikes Locked to Trees

### **Introductions**

**The minutes from the March 5, 2012, meeting were approved.**

### **Bicycle Accidents, 2011**

- Postponed because Officer Sullivan could not attend.

### **CIP Funding for Bicycle Projects**

- The CIP Sub-Committee of the Advisory Board has not yet met.

### **Town Meeting Warrant Article on Contraflow Lanes**

- Mr. Selwyn said he authored the warrant article because he felt that the Transportation Board did not take into account all the stakeholders (motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists). He hoped his article would begin the process of focusing on this perceived inequity. There was a spirited discussion about the article, the positive and negative behaviors of all stakeholders, the contraflow rationale in particular, and the Transportation Board decision making process.
- The subcommittee of the Advisory Board will discuss Article 23 (to move the authority of approving contraflow lanes from the Transportation Board to the Town Meeting) and vote on a recommendation to the Advisory Board on April 3, 2012, at 5:30 PM in Town Hall. Mr. Vitolo will attend.

### **Bike Parade (May 20)**

- Mr. Dempsey reported that the posters and post cards should be ready soon.
- Mr. Dempsey continues to solicit food vendors for the event.
- Mr. Dempsey thanked those who “liked” the Bike Parade on Facebook.

### **Bicycle Laws and Enforcement**

- Mr. Dippel raised the question of whether the BAC had some responsibility to educate riders and provide guidance for enforcement of laws governing bicycles.
- There was a discussion about rational enforcement, erratic enforcement, the BAC role, ways to support the police, reaching out to MassBike and Safe Routes to School, and the current safety program for grade three.
- Mr. Dippel will put together recommendations about education and enforcement that the BAC

can discuss at a future meeting.

#### **Signage review request from Transportation staff**

- The Transportation staff asked the BAC to study the use and effectiveness of pavement markings and/or signage to keep bicyclists from riding on sidewalks in commercial areas and provide an opinion that the Transportation Board can use to decide whether or not staff should include and budget for this item in future plans.
- Ms. Snow shared a draft of a response to the Transportation Board.
- The BAC recommended some minor changes to the draft.
- Ms. Snow will forward the BAC response about riding on sidewalks in commercial areas to the Transportation Board.

#### **Parking Day (September 21)**

- Ms. Snow outlined a plan from Ms. Pelhke to turn four parking spaces in Coolidge Corner into “parks” on September 21, 2012.
- There was a short discussion about what the BAC role should be (e.g. should we participate?)
- No decision.

#### **Summer Meetings**

- Ms. Snow will miss the June 4 and July 2 meetings. She is willing to set the agendas if somebody else will chair those meetings.
- Mr. Dippel will chair the June 4 meeting.

#### **Other Business**

- In response to a request from the Tree Planting Committee, Ms. Snow presented a draft of an informational flier that could be used to deter bicyclists from locking bikes to trees. There was a discussion about wording. Ms. Snow will make edits to the flier and forward it to the Tree Planting Committee.

#### **Next Meeting**

- We will meet next on Monday, May 7, 2012, at 7 P.M. at Devotion School.

#### **Adjournment**

- We adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

#### **Assignments**

- Mr. Vitolo will attend the subcommittee of the Advisory Board discussion and vote on Article 23 (contraflow lanes) on April 3, 2012, at 5:30 PM in Town Hall.
- Mr. Dempsey will solicit food vendors for the Bike Parade.
- Mr. Dippel will put together recommendations about education and enforcement that the BAC can discuss at a future meeting.
- Ms. Snow will forward the BAC response about riding on sidewalks in commercial areas to the Transportation Board.
- Mr. Dippel will chair the June 4 meeting.
- Ms. Snow will make edits to the “locking bikes to trees” flier and forward it to the Tree Planting Committee.