

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

Meeting minutes for November 5, 2012

Submitted by Chris Dippel

The meeting took place in the Devotion School faculty Lounge and started at 7:00 PM.

Present: Cynthia Snow, John Dempsey, Tommy Vitolo, Mitch Heineman, Chris Dippel

Absent: Don McNamara, Officer Sullivan (police liaison)

Also Attending:

Public: John Bowman, Cecelia Cobb

Handouts: agenda, bike count data, article, "Route Infrastructure and the Risk of Injuries to Bicyclists" (*American Journal of Public Health*, October 2012)

Introductions

Minutes: the minutes from the September and October meetings were approved.

Bike Parade: John led a discussion of the next Bike Parade, scheduled for Sunday, May 19, specifically its timing and format. The attendees were generally in favor of keeping the format similar to previous parades, a family-oriented event on a Sunday morning, and exploring expanding the event in one of several ways John proposed: adding of food truck and a north loop into the Cottage Farm neighborhood and then south of Beacon St. Other ideas that were discussed included substituting street performers for the band, adding additional concurrent or post-parade rides to other destinations, and organizing a "cyclovia" in the west bound lanes of Beacon St. before Cleveland Circle. Jon noted that expansion can occur if additional people get involved. Discussion to be continued.

Bike Counts: Cynthia handed out the bike count summaries and the attendees discussed the trends, mostly slightly positive, and Tommy suggested comparing the data to that generated in Boston and asking if Peter Furth had ideas for an analysis project to yield policy guidance.

Climate Week: Participation in Climate Week was discussed and Tommy suggested partnering with Livable Streets who may have an appropriate "road show" to be displayed. Cynthia will look into it.

Follow-up: Cynthia noted her article on sharing the public ways was published in the Tab and was complimented by the attendees. The idea of continuing to find venues for the BAC's educational efforts was discussed. Cynthia also noted that she was updating the Green Routes Plan.

Other Business: Chris asked if there was interest in pursuing a memorandum to the Transportation Board about how the Town enforces or encourages safe behavior by users of the public ways and there was sufficient interest to revisit the draft memo first circulated in June. Chris also asked if there was interest in pursuing a way-finding project of some sort, to help guide people using non-motorized transportation around town, and there was general interest and he was encouraged to inquire in the Town office of economic development for possible allies.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM. Next meeting will be December 3.