

Brookline Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

Meeting minutes for March 4, 2013

Submitted by Chris Dippel

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

Members present: Cynthia Snow, John Dempsey, Tommy Vitolo, Sgt. Mark Trahon (police liaison), Chris Dippel

Absent: Don McNamara

Attending from the public: John Bowman, Cecelia Cobb, Bryan Decker, Andrew Wang

Handouts: agenda

Introductions

Minutes: the minutes from February meeting had not been finalized and so were not approved.

Bike Parade: John led a discussion of the next Bike Parade, scheduled for Sunday, May 19, and noted that, after discussion with the BPD, the route will be unchanged. He also noted that the starting time will be 1 PM to accommodate families that attend Sunday classes and to avoid BU commencement traffic. He also said that two food vendors- B.Good and Culinary Cruisers- will attend, that the event was being advertised on the calendars of REI, Landry's, and other stores, and a DJ will provides tunes.

BAC/BPD Liaison: Chris put forward the idea of having a BAC member be designated as a liaison to the BPD, specifically to provide the BAC with insight on enforcement issues and be a conduit for any matters needing immediate attention. The idea was generally endorsed by the attendees. Cynthia asked Sgt. Trahon about getting accident statistics as the BAC has had in the past and he said he would look into it. Cecelia noted that the Boston Cyclists Union was working on a report of Boston data and their tools (e.g., GIS mapping) may be helpful to the BAC.

CIP for FY 2015: Cynthia noted that BAC input was needed on the next CIP by the end of May and asked for suggestions of projects to be added. Those mentioned were: sharrow placement on all major commuting routes, reinstating no parking on the lower end of Beacon St. inbound (St. Paul to Carlton) during morning rush hour, and

sharrows on Summer St. to aid in travel to/from the High School. Members were asked to prepare suggestions for discussion at the next meeting.

Follow-up: It was noted that the Emerald Necklace crossing plan was on hold pending resolution of the points raised by the Board of Selectmen. Cynthia reported on her presentation of the BAC priority project list at the most recent Transportation Board meeting and that it was well-received.

Other Business: Cynthia noted that the BAC input was requested by the Transportation Division staff (Todd Kirrane) on the 2013-14 Clyde/Lee Street repaving project. The attendees discussed the merits of dedicated bike lanes, wider shoulders, signage, conflict with residents wishing to park vehicles on the street, the need for curbs in places and bicycle-friendly storm drain grates. Cynthia said she would draft a statement and circulate, re-write, and submit it on March 5. Chris brought up a notice asking for submissions for a "Wheel Wars" article by the Tab publisher and WGBH. The attendees uniformly thought such an article was a poor idea and not reflective of reality. Tommy noted that we, as individuals, may respond, and that the BAC may advise the Transportation Board to respond if we thought it was needed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM. Next meeting will be April 1.