

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

Meeting Minutes for December 2, 2013

Submitted by Bryan Decker

The meeting took place in the Town Hall Room 310 at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Cynthia Snow, Bryan Decker, John Dempsey, Chris Dippel, Don McNamara, Tommy Vitolo

Public: Gene Briskman, Alan Leviton, John Bowman, Rebecca Albrecht, Kate Toomey, Mitch Heineman

Handouts: Agenda, "Lessons from Copenhagen" (PowerPoint display presentation distributed by Mr. Bowman)

Introductions

Review and Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- The committee reviewed and voted to approve the minutes from the November 2013 meeting.

2014 Bike Parade Update

- Mr. Dempsey gave an update on preparations for the May 2014 bike parade.
 - The Parade is tentatively scheduled for May 18, 2013
 - There is a memorial service planned at Hall Pond on 5/18 at 2:00
 - Moving the start time of the parade to 12:30 in order to minimize potential conflict with the memorial service was discussed
 - Mr. Dempsey agreed to speak with the organizers of the memorial about moving the start time of the memorial back to further eliminate possible conflict
 - Additional Marshalls are needed for the parade. Potential for additional CERT volunteers discussed.

Discussion of Proposals to remove parking from Chapel St. in front of Longwood Towers

- Mr. Briskman and Mr. Leviton, representatives from the Longwood Towers, presented on their request to the Transportation Board to remove parking in front of the Towers on Chapel Street in order to improve sightlines for vehicles exiting from the circular driveway in front of main entrance.
 - There have been accidents involving cars exiting the circular driveway.
 - Bicycle accommodations on Chapel Street have led to an increase in bicycle traffic, increasing concerns for bicycle accidents.
 - The Longwood Towers residents are requesting that all parking spots between the entrance and exit of the circular driveway be removed.
- The Committee agreed to request that the Transportation Board remove enough parking on Chapel Street not just to meet minimum sight guidelines but to truly enhance the

safety of all street users.

Green Routes Network Plan revisions

- Chairwoman Snow discussed proposed revisions to the plan, which were accepted by the Committee
- The Committee agreed that the Plan should note locations of Hubway stations and bike racks.

11/21/2013 Transportation Board meeting

- Chairwoman Snow updated the Committee on the 11/21 Transportation Board meeting at which they discussed the designation of “Business Districts” and accepted the proposals of the BAC as a starting point. The Transportation Board may add additional addresses to Business Districts in the future.

Other Business

- Mr. Bowman made an interesting and informative presentation of his experience with bicycle infrastructure in Denmark.
- Mr. McNamara and Mr. Vitolo discussed ongoing efforts to improve and update the BAC website.
- Mr. Bowman indicated that he had received documents for the meeting in advance (previously only sent to Committee members), and found it very helpful.

Bicycle Safety Education

- Mr. Decker gave an update on efforts to introduce the Safe Routes to School program at the Driscoll School
 - Mr. Decker attended a meeting between the Massachusetts Safe Routes to School representative and the principal and vice principal of the Driscoll School
 - Safe Routes to School trainings will be held at Driscoll in spring 2014 for both pedestrian (for 2nd and 3rd grades) and bicycle (for 4th and 5th grades) safety.
- Ms. Toomey gave an update of her efforts to develop a bicycle safety education program for adults in Brookline
 - Ms. Toomey is proposing basing her program on the existing program in Cambridge.
 - Ms. Toomey will contact Brookline Adult Education to determine whether a course could be organized through their program

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be Monday, January 6.