

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

Meeting Minutes for March 2, 2015

Submitted by Chris Dippel

The meeting took place in the Town Hall Room 408 at 7:00 PM.

**Present:** Cynthia Snow, Bryan Decker, Chris Dippel, Thomas Vitolo, and Officer Kevin Fallon representing Sgt. Mark Trahon

**Absent:** John Dempsey, Don McNamara

**Public:** John Bowman, Mitch Heineman, Henry Winkelman, Rebecca Albrecht, Craig Bolon, Genevieve Scarano

**Handouts:** agenda; January meeting minutes; Cambridge “Level of Comfort” map

([http://www.cambridgema.gov/~media/Files/CDD/Transportation/Bike/bikeplan/BicycleLevelofComfort\\_20141205.ashx](http://www.cambridgema.gov/~media/Files/CDD/Transportation/Bike/bikeplan/BicycleLevelofComfort_20141205.ashx)) and Bicycle Priority (Facilities) map

([http://www.cambridgema.gov/~media/Files/CDD/Transportation/Bike/bikeplan/BicyclePriorityNetworkOverview\\_20141205.ashx](http://www.cambridgema.gov/~media/Files/CDD/Transportation/Bike/bikeplan/BicyclePriorityNetworkOverview_20141205.ashx)); John Bowman’s Devotion School Building Project Recommendations; a memo by Dan Martin of the Transportation Department summarizing the results of the Marion/Beacon St. study; Brookline Police Bike Unit’s 2014 Annual Report and a summary of education, enforcement and bicycle accidents for 2014.

### **Introductions**

- The BAC members and attendees introduced themselves.

### **Review and Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

- The committee’s review and approval of the January meeting minutes was postponed until a quorum of members from that meeting are present.

### **Devotion School Bicycle and Pedestrian Building Project Recommendations**

- Mr. Bowman reviewed his main recommendations concerning: the front traffic circle, bicycle parking for students, parking for faculty, and access from Stedman St.
- The members and attendees asked questions and discussed the recommendations, and the committee decided to forward the following recommendations to the Transportation Board with the request it forward them to the Building Planning Committee:
  - Provide covered bicycle parking at each of the three main school entrances for students and visitors.
  - Provide bicycle parking for faculty and staff on the lower level of the garage as close as is safe and practicable to the planned faculty showers.
- The committee will ask that the Transportation Department explore improving access by bicycle via Stedman Street, specifically by providing safe contraflow bicycle movement on Stedman Street or a side path from the School toward Gibbs Street.

### **Cambridge Level of Comfort Bike Map/Brookline Bike Map**

- Ms. Snow circulated copies of two maps (see above) and led a discussion of how the BAC may incorporate similar features in its maps. There was general agreement that the BAC should pursue two maps: one showing existing and approved facilities (accommodations), specifically, on-road lanes, off-road lanes (cycle tracks and multi-use paths), and marked shared lanes and possibly “connector” (low traffic) roads; and a second showing existing, approved, and planned routes similar. The former would be available for way-finding and the latter to illustrate the Green Routes plan. We will explore a level of comfort map after these are completed.
- Ms. Snow will talk with the Transportation staff about how these may be constructed.

### **Beacon Street Hill—Marion to Washington Square**

- Ms. Snow circulated Mr. Martin's memo and the members discussed its findings, the main one of which was to implement a single motorized traffic lane and on-road bicycle lane on this outbound segment of Beacon St. The proposed lane layout was reviewed by the members who endorsed the design with the request that additional marking be added across the intersection with Lancaster Terrace.

### **Transportation Board Meeting**

- Ms. Snow reported that she presented the latest Green Routes plan. The Transportation Board also reviewed these items of interest: the Route 9 crossing of the Muddy River/Leverett Pond paths and Brookline Place development. She also noted that the Board approved one additional member for the BAC and asked the members to make recommendations for the new member; the position will also be posted publicly.

### **Public Meeting on Bicycling in Brookline**

- The meeting is set for March 17, 6:30 PM at the Coolidge Corner library.

### **FY2016 CIP Projects**

- Ms. Snow noted a meeting to review this year's CIP request will be held on March 12, 5:30 PM, Room 103 and she will attend.

### **Annual Brookline Police Report on Bicycling**

- Officer Fallon circulated the report and summary, and the committee agreed to postpone discussion until members had time to read them.

### **DCR Roads in Brookline – West Roxbury Pkwy and Hammond Pond Pkwy**

- Mr. Dippel briefly reviewed his memo of December 2015 on the DCR's planning project to improve pedestrian and bicycle access on DCR land.
- Mr. Vitolo suggested the BAC generate some specific recommendations and recruit other town groups to add to them, and then these will be presented in some way as a Town of Brookline request.
- Mr. Dippel agreed to draft bicycle-related specifics for such an effort.

### **New Business**

- Ms. Snow noted that a planning effort was underway for a rebuilding of the BU bridge/Pike overpass and asked how the BAC may have input. Ms. Albrecht said the comments were due on March 10, which does not allow enough time for a recommendation via the Transportation Board.
- Several attendees noted that access to bike racks and contra-flow lanes are currently blocked by snow and the members agreed to send a memo to the Board requesting it forward a request for attention to this matter to the DPW.

### **Next Meeting**

- The next meeting of the BAC will be Monday, April 6, 2015. (This will include a presentation by Mr. Caro about pedestrian improvements.)