

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2017, Town Hall Room 408 at 7:00 PM.

Submitted by Kristin Schreiber

Members present: John Bowman, Mark Lowenstein, Jacob Meunier, Kristin Schreiber, Cynthia Snow, Tommy Vitolo, Brian Sutherland (police liaison)

Public: UMass journalism student, Anne Lusk, Irving Kurki, David Kroop, Nancee Rothenberg, David Read, Andrew McFarland, Todd Kirrane

Regent Circle: Nancee Rothenberg of Regent Circle, described the poor paving and potholes on this privately-owned street, which she has attempted unsuccessfully to have remedied; she solicited advice and help from the BAC. As an area of high traffic, including children on bikes/scooters, this is a safety concern. Although the BAC and Transportation Board do not have jurisdiction over this privately-owned street, some potential advocates and strategies were suggested.

Bicycling in the Longwood Medical Area: David Read of LMA and Andrew McFarland of Livable Streets Alliance reported on efforts to improve safety for all users of streets in the LMA:

- Would like to collaborate in trying to improve Longwood Ave in Brookline and on the bridge over the T; responsibility for the bridge will be clarified.
- DCR, Boston, Masco all have some responsibility for the complex LMA
- BAC can distribute flyers and electronic message to direct people to website to take LMA transportation survey
- April 5th--training session for those interested in helping in LMA; contact Andrew@livablestreets.info
- Design competition is being planned on improving the area

Minutes of the February 2017 meeting were approved

Back-up secretary when Ms. Schreiber is not in attendance: Bryan Decker

2018 Capital Improvement Project: Consensus is to move forward on plan for bike lanes/sharrows on Centre Street suggestions for changes to the draft plan to be sent to Transportation Department staff. These are all for the area of Centre St near Beacon. They include

- having a shared lane rather than a bike lane northbound between Beacon and the parking lot to avoid right hooks by vehicles and a difficult merge by cyclists;
- narrowing the northbound lane to permit maintaining the southbound bike lane all the way to the intersection with flex posts and one vehicle lane OR two vehicle lanes with arrows to indicate left turn or right turn/straight.
- When the Farmers' Market is in session, cars tend to park on the southbound side of the street in what will become the bike lane. This should be addressed by no parking enforcement or temporary signage during each Market session.

Future CIP Proposals will be the subject of discussion at future meetings.

Proposed Bicycle Lane Violation Counts: Mr. Bowman has developed a system for recording blocked bike lanes. It will be piloted with a small group to collect data on whether or not violations occur along target segments in an unbiased way→ output will be average number of violations present at any point in time in each segment. Sgt Sutherland expects to have additional bicycle officers, and he has already asked officers to watch areas of concern.

Hammond St.: Ms. Snow is talking with community leaders and hopes to have a late April date and place for a community workshop soon.

Climate Week 2017 (Saturday, April 1): BAC will have a table at Pierce school with map to solicit community input on desired bicycle accommodations. Ms. Snow and Mr. Meunier will staff the table; others are welcome. Mr. Dempsey and Mr. Decker will also be leading a bike tour of some Green Routes bicycle accommodations, including Beacon St. outbound and others.

February Crash Report: Sgt Sutherland distributed report showing 3 crashes involving bicycles; 1) no injury; 2) injury and motorist citation; 3) Commonwealth Ave, handled by Boston.

Upcoming Events: Peter Furth talk, March 13, 7 PM, Room 111 Town Hall; Transportation board meetings on March 16 and 20

2017 meeting dates, all meetings in Room 408, Town Hall: (First Monday of the month unless noted):
WEDNESDAY, January 4; February 6; March 6; April 3; WEDNESDAY, May 3; June 5; WEDNESDAY, July 5; August 7; WEDNESDAY, September 6; October 2; WEDNESDAY, November 1; December 4