

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

Meeting Minutes for April 2, 2018, Town Hall Room 408, 7:00 PM

Submitted by Kristin Schreiber

**BAC members present:** John Bowman, Jacob Meunier, Kristin Schreiber, Cynthia Snow, Mark Lowenstein, Tommy Vitolo, Bryan Decker, Brian Sutherland (police liaison),

**Members absent:** Jonathan Kapust (Transportation Board liaison)

**Public:** Alisa Plazonja, Andrew Moulton, Mitch Heineman, Anne Lusk, David-Marc Goldstein, Jules Milner-Brage, John Harris

1. **March minutes** accepted as circulated

### 2. **Upcoming Climate Week Activities**

- Saturday, April 7, volunteers will host a table, either inside Pierce or outside with John Harris' bicycle extravaganza, depending on weather.
- Set up 9:30-ish at Pierce School
- Will give information, take suggestions from public and use interactive map to chart community members' bike routes
- Bike accommodations tour ride (Brian Decker and John Dempsey), 1.5- 2 hours, including past and future sites of bicycle accommodations; meet in front of Town Hall at 9:00 am, Saturday, April 7th

### 3. **Bike parade**--none planned for this year

- Mark and Bryan planning to honor John Dempsey's efforts over the years in some way such as event or article in the TAB in summer or fall
- Future ideas for parade-like event: "cyclovia" i.e. closing the street for bikes, pedestrians, events
- Will discuss this further at next meeting

4. **Babcock St:** Reviewed and voted on proposed modifications to option 5 drafted by Jacob Meunier (Tommy Vitolo stepped out before voting began, so 6 members voting); those approved will be forwarded to Todd Kirrane and Chris Dempsey

- Reduce speed limit to 20 mph (6/0)- accepted
- "Bikes may use full lane" signs, several along length of northbound direction (6/0)-accepted
- Traffic calming/narrowing after John Street going northward; make sure street is narrow for its length to slow traffic; has support from the neighborhood; (1/5)-not accepted
- Reinforce the northbound sharrows with green painted "carpet" (6/0)-accepted
- Change curb extensions at all northbound crossings using such alternatives as street level demarcation, which would allow bikes to pass safely through; paint to simulate curb extension, flex posts, or bike-mountable curb extensions (5/1)- accepted
- Work with Hubway/Motivate to plan a bike share station somewhere between Harvard and the fire station, on the northbound side (2/4)-not accepted
- Defer bike accommodations on Naples Rd until impact of Babcock bike accommodations becomes clear; comment and discussion that bike lane demarcation not needed on this residential street (4/2)-accepted
- Additional suggestion from Mark: having appropriate signage on Commonwealth Ave to inform cyclists about bike lane on Babcock; this is in Boston rather than Brookline

5. **Restrict parking from Charles to St Mary's 6-10 AM-** unanimous support, will discuss with Kara Brewton and Todd Kirrane

6. **Loading zone project request**- unanimous support, will discuss with Kara Brewton and Todd Kirrane

7. **Support for higher priority of Hammond St for CIP 2020** because of ongoing progress in this area, but while continuing to plan for bicycle accommodations on Washington and Harvard Streets - unanimous support

8. **Proposal for connection from Pearl St to River Rd Bike Path by Anne Lusk**

- This direct connection from Pearl St would cross Brookline Ave, through land with a current zoning easement to the River Road bike path along the Muddy River
- This proposal will be added to *Green Routes Plan* and discussed with Todd Kirrane and Kara Brewton in planning with businesses in the area
- Tour of the relevant areas for bike accommodations in this area going into Longwood with Charlotte Fleetwood and Anne Lusk: meeting at Brookline Ave and Riverway, on Friday, April 13th at 3:30; all are welcome

9. **Updates/Reports/New Business**

- Winchester Street north of Beacon was noted to be in particularly bad shape, hazardous to bikers, and in need of repaving
- Sgt Sutherland reported on three bicycle crashes in March, none of which required transport to a hospital.
- The CIP Subcommittee and full advisory committee approved funding for the bike and ped improvements to Essex-Dummer for FY 2019.
- Bike racks in the commercial districts are routinely buried in snow banks after big storms; it would be good to address this with the appropriate business organizations and/or town departments
- Presentation on progress on Beacon St Bridle Path by Jules Milner-Brage
  - Has been working on investigating potential bike accommodations along the former space of the Olmsted bridle path on Beacon in conjunction with Peter Firth and Jackson Lynch
  - Presented briefly a plan to shrink current roadway elements to allow this path, as well as crossing options for pedestrians and cyclists at key intersections.
  - Will revisit in future meetings at greater length.