

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

Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, February 6, 2019, Town Hall 408, 7 PM

**Members present:** John Bowman, Elena Huisman, Jacob Meunier, Kristin Schreiber, Cynthia Snow, Len Wholey, Brian Sutherland (police liaison)

**Members absent:** Mark Lowenstein, Ashley Haire (Transportation Board liaison),

**Others present:** Andrew Moulton, Daniel Martelly (via phone), Jules Milner-Brage

**Minutes:** January 2019 meeting minutes were approved as circulated.

### **Updates**

- Brookline received State Complete Streets funding for 6 of its 8 requests, for a total of \$235,000. At least two of those awards include bicycle accommodations: a left turn bike box on Harvard southbound at Babcock and left turn boxes at the Harvard-Beacon Street intersection.
- Sgt. Sutherland reported that there were no bicycle crashes in January.
- A walk and bike to school day was held; information, bookmarks and stickers were passed out by parents and children. Following a discussion of possible upcoming bike rodeos at schools, the BAC voted to support the effort. Sgt. Sutherland indicated that with advance notice, police officers would be interested in participating.
- John Bowman, Ashley Haire and Cynthia Snow met with representatives of the Commission on Disabilities to get acquainted and share concerns about safe use of the streets. The availability and access of HP parking spaces is a concern, including how spaces are affected by bicycle accommodations such as parking-protected bike lanes.

**Beacon St. Bridle Path Event:** Ms. Snow reported on a subcommittee meeting and information from Mr. Kirrane and Mr. Dempsey. The BAC agreed on the date Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM to 2 PM with no rain date. Subcommittee members will meet with Deputy Superintendent Myles Murphy and a representative of the DPW Highway Division to discuss the feasibility of using the stretch of the median on the wide side of Beacon St. from Carlton to Charles St. for the event. Additional suggestions for possible co-sponsors/participants included Biking Brookline, Bike Newton, Brookline Music School, a jazz quartet (Seth Rubin). Mr. Milner-Brage announced that a Friends of Beacon St. Bridle Path group is being set up under the Greenspace Alliance.

**Bicycle Friendly Community Status:** Brookline's status as a bronze League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Community will expire at the end of this year; following a report on the requirements for reapplying, the committee agreed to proceed with the application. Ms. Snow will take the lead.

**Automated Speed Enforcement Cameras:** Mr. Wholey made a presentation on the use and types of cameras for speed and traffic enforcement. He noted that a bill has been introduced in the legislature to permit cameras in Massachusetts (co-sponsored by Mr. Vitolo). If approved, it would allow local communities to establish a program if they wish. Two other safety bills with bicycle implications have also been filed: one to require side guards on trucks and another to prohibit the use of hand-held electronic devices by drivers.

**Bicycle Education Project:** Mr. Martelly (by phone) and Ms. Huisman described a project to develop a bicycle education flier for Brookline similar to those used in other communities and from the DOT. They propose to distribute it through local businesses. A volunteer has offered to help with design. The committee voted to approve moving forward with outline/text for the brochure, at which point, Mr. Bowman will approach the Brookline Chamber of Commerce about co-sponsoring the brochure and submit it for approval to the Transportation Board.

**Follow-up/Open Items:** Mr. Bowman noted that with Mr. Kirrane's assistance, he updates the list each month as a way for the committee to track on-going items. Two items were highlighted:

- At the last Transportation Board meeting, Mr. Bowman read part of the letter prepared by the BAC last month regarding the lack of temporary bicycle lane lines on Babcock, although other traffic lines were painted when the repaving project went on hiatus for the winter. Mr. Ditto responded that the DPW will make temporary markings a contract bid item going forward.
- Mr. Pappastergion recently acknowledged the letter from the BAC regarding snow removal from bike racks. He said that it had been added to the DPW snow removal protocol but that it is low on the priority list and would probably not be addressed for a few days after a major storm. Mr. Moulton agreed to monitor bike racks and keep the BAC informed.

**Adjournment:** 8:47 PM