

Brookline Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, December 4, 2019, Town Hall 408, 7 PM

Members present: John Bowman, Elena Huisman, Mark Lowenstein, Jacob Meunier, Kristin Schreiber, Cynthia Snow,

Members absent: Len Wholey, Brian Sutherland (police liaison)

Others present: Andrew Moulton, Jan Preheim, Jules Milner-Brage

Minutes: November 2019 meeting minutes were approved as circulated.

Updates:

- **Transportation Board:** The Select Board will appoint new Transportation Board members at their December 5 meeting (prior to Town Meeting)
- **Police Report:** Mr. Bowman noted that there was a serious vehicle-bicycle crash on Newton Street.
- **LivableStreets:** Stacy Thompson and Chris Dempsey were on Channel 2's "Greater Boston" show on December 2. 12/10 the annual Street Talks—10 short presentations—at the Old South church at 6:30 PM.
- **Safe Routes to School:** Dr. Schreiber suggested getting parents who bike involved in making recommendations for safe routes to and from each school; she can help make contacts via the SRTS committee.
- **Sustainability:** Zoe Lynn has resigned as the Town's sustainability administrator. An effort is underway to encourage the Town to rehire her.
- **Town Meeting:** Passed WA 7 on maintaining all pavement markings.
- **Other:** Mr. Lowenstein attended a recent meeting in Boston on transportation issues; speakers included the authors of the Boston Globe series as well as state and local officials.

Green Routes Plan: Major changes to the plan were discussed, as noted below. Ms. Snow said that based on that discussion, she will edit the document and make a clean copy available before the next BAC meeting for final review and approval to submit to the Transportation Board. No further changes should be made to the Google copy of the document after Friday, December 6.

- Reorganization of the plan was accepted, including moving the new "protected framework" and "safe connecting streets sections" into section 2, "network plan." This section will include three maps, which Mr. Heineman is working on.
- Section 4 on priorities will be enlarged to include "important destinations" with recommendations on safe routes (present or planned) to reach them. These destinations include schools, and recommendations already drafted for the high school and Driscoll will be included. Other destinations will be listed with more details to come in future versions of the GR Plan.
- Expanded sections on repair and maintenance and on e-scooters were described by Mr. Lowenstein and discussed.
- Mr. Meunier will provide a collage of photos from Bridleway events over the past year to be used on the cover page.

High School Bicycle Accommodations: A proposal for roads to, from and around the existing and new buildings at the high school has been prepared, reflecting the recommendations approved by the BAC at its November meeting. Ms. Preheim has circulated a copy of the plan with a short survey and has been reaching out to high school students, teachers and staff as well as residents for their comments. Mr. Wholey has also been interviewing school people. Based on comments received, additional adjustments may be made. The proposal will then be submitted to staff to prepare recommendations for the January Transportation Board meeting.

CIP FY22 Project Ideas: Mr. Bowman distributed a list of possible projects for funding, including short term improvements for South Brookline, Harvard Street and Washington Street. There was general agreement that improvements for South Brookline are important, and there was general discussion of all the possibilities. Discussion will continue at future meetings, and Mr. Bowman will circulate the flow chart he developed of the process.

BAC Name and Scope: Mr. Bowman distributed copies of the current mission and goals of the BAC and raised several questions to consider as other micro-mobility modes become more prevalent. Among them is whether to recommend to the Transportation Board that the responsibilities and name of the BAC be expanded, since many of these newer modes will share bicycle facilities. There was a lively discussion of pros and cons to various options, which will continue at future meetings.

Follow-up and Open Items: The updates received from Mr. Kirrane after the November meeting were distributed; various projects are at or near completion, such as the separated cycle track and lanes on Pearl Street, contraflow on an additional block of Ivy and sharrows on St. Mary's; funding for a Beacon Bridleway study has been secured by legislative representatives, but additional funds must be sought.

Other business: Mr. Moulton said that the recent snowfall was not large enough to block key bike racks, but he will continue to monitor them in future storms and recommend follow-up for clearing priority racks to DPW as warranted.

Adjournment: 9 PM