



SOMERVILLE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MARCH 2010
MINUTES
Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Community Representatives

Brian C. Postlewaite, Chairman
Charles Denison, Vice Chairman
Steve DaSilva, Secretary
Peter Coyle
Jim Gallagher
Enid Kumin
Alan Moore
Ron Newman
Alex Epstein

Ex-Officio

James Delory, Office of the Mayor
Bob Trane, Board of Alderman
Commissioner Stanley Koty, Department of Public Works
Terry Smith, Traffic & Parking
Kathleen Ziegenfuss, Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development
Chief Anthony Holloway, Police Department

MEETING MINUTES: Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 7:00 p.m., City Hall

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING: Charles, Steve, Enid, Alex, Jim, Ron

EX-OFFICIO ATTENDING: Kathleen Ziegenfuss

GUESTS ATTENDING: Lauren Clayton, Scott Clark, Tim Talun

PROCEDURAL BUSINESS:

1. Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m.
2. Minutes: The Committee was still waiting for the January and February minutes, so it did not approve anything.
3. To Do Lists: To do list was also not ready yet.
4. Membership:
 - Kathleen informed the committee that some members had terms that were expiring and that she will submit a letter to the Mayor to have those members who would like to continue to be reappointed. Enid volunteered to contact Peter Coyle to see if he still intends to serve on the committee. Brian will write a letter to Jing Dai to see if she is still interested.
 - **New Secretary needed!** Charlie asked for a secretary for this meeting. No one volunteered.
5. Budget: 2009 expenses are \$266.35, and an additional \$185 from 2006, 2007 & 2008 (Jim). 2010 expenses to date are \$0. The committee discussed putting together a budget for 2010. Jim volunteered to e-mail a budget proposal to Kathleen, who will attempt to get that amount of money for the committee through the City.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **SBC Annual Rpt; review final (VOTE)** All in favor.
2. Proposed Bike Lane Ordinance (Scott & Alan) Scott informed the committee that he will write a letter and meet with Alan. The letter will most likely be addressed to Stan Koty.
3. **City Bicycle Facility Meeting Presentation (Brian & Alex)** New maps and a draft agenda are ready. Brian, Alex, and Kathleen will be meeting with Mike Lambert (OSPCD), Terry Smith (Traffic & Parking), and Robert Staff (new City Engineer at DPW). They will discuss the committee's innovative facility proposals, funding issues, and the committee's

annual report.

PROJECT UPDATES:

1. Infrastructure:

- On-Street Bike Parking (Charlie): To be discussed at City Bicycle Facility Meeting.
- Poor Pavement Priorities (Alex): To be discussed at City Bicycle Facility Meeting.
- Innovative Bike Facility Pilot (Charlie): To be discussed at City Bicycle Facility Meeting.
 - Cedar/Mossland
 - Summer
- Portable Bike Rack Trailer (Brian): No update this month.
- Street Layouts:
 - Temple St (Reconstruction due to Gas lines; can bike lanes or sharrows fit?) Charlie will get the measuring wheel from Brian and measure the street.
- Bike Rack Installation (Kathleen): Kathleen informed the committee that 22 ring racks on new posts/parking meters/existing posts will be installed along with 81 powderhouse racks. Most locations have been marked with the remainder to be marked tomorrow. All will be installed within the next month. All missing racks will be replaced. Kathleen is still working with LivableStreets Alliance to have Somerville added to the Bike Rack Request online tool as well as to have the committee's Q&A's added to the 311 website.

2. Events:

- Bicycle Forum (Steve): Committee was not sure what the status of this is.
- Bike Initiatives Presentation (scheduled for March 18): See above.

3. Route Planning:

- East/West Bike Route & Direction Signage (Ron & Brian): To be discussed at meeting with the City.
- Street Suitability Map (Scott and Brian): No update this month.
- Google Bike Maps: Google Maps recently added bicycle directions, however there are some issues with Somerville. Alex volunteered to send a report with a link to our facilities map to Google. Everyone should submit their own issues to Google as well using the "Report a Problem" link.

4. Education/Outreach

- Safe-Routes to School (Alan, report forthcoming)
- Road Rage Reduction (Scott & Lauren): Scott and Lauren will be meeting to discuss this. The challenge is to keep it narrowly defined, to have it more about courtesy/education for bicyclists and motorists.
- Bike Education Program for all 5th Grades (Kathleen): The City received a grant for 50 bikes and for a Community Police Officer to teach 5th graders how to bike. Kathleen asked people on the committee to consider volunteering to help out with the teaching. Not sure if we want a rep on the committee for this program.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Bay State Bike Week, May 17-21, any ideas of how we could be involved?

- Mayor's challenge (Similar to Columbia, MO's Bike, Walk & Wheel Week: <http://www.pednet.org/programs/bike-walk-wheel-week.asp>)
- Bike to School Escorts
 - There will be a kick-off for 5th grade education program. Enid will send an e-mail about this.
 - There will most likely be an after school bike maintenance event on the City Hall Concourse.
 - Ron volunteered to help with bike to school breakfasts.
 - Nicole with Shape Up Somerville is also working on Bike Week events. Kathleen can channel information to her.
- Charlie suggested adding a convoy route to Boston's Bike Fridays through the middle of Somerville, including Ball Square, Winter Hill, Union Square, possibly East Somerville. Kathleen will ask Nicole Freedman if this is possible.

2. Bike Counting Project (Kathleen): In our Annual Report, we mention annual automated bike counting at key intersections. This is something that will be done this summer. Kathleen needs volunteers to help count before and after bike lanes are

installed on certain streets. Mark Chase has offered to let the committee borrow an automated counter he has. Need to set up dates, times, and locations. We can collaborate with Shape Up Somerville. Jim offered to help.

3. One-day ciclovia (Scott): City is working on ideas. More to report next month. Scott is working on coordinating and collecting ideas.

4. Historic Bike Tour (Ron): Sunday May 23 1pm starting at City Hall. Rain date June 13. No route selected yet. Theme yet to be determined. Ron and Dick (from Historic Commission) are planned to meet to discuss details. Ron looking for new theme ideas. Possibilities: past + present theaters; old parks + new parks; old industrial sites; migrants, markets, monuments.

5. Willow Ave (Charlie): Charlie received a question about whether Willow Ave will have the bike lane repainted and traffic calming measures installed as was planned a few years ago. Kathleen will look into it. Ron suggested that the traffic light at Summer and Cedar be changed to flashing red in all directions similar to others further down Summer St. Kathleen mentioned that regarding the repainting of the bike lanes, Terry is waiting until the street is repaved this year or next year.

6. Boston Ave bike lanes, Medford (Ron): City Council considering adding bike lanes to Boston Ave in Medford. If they do so, we should coordinate and stripe the small 2-block section in Somerville north of Ball Square. Ron will follow up and keep the committee informed.

7. Terry's bike lane plans (Kathleen): As mentioned above, Terry intends to wait until Willow Ave is repaved to repaint the lanes. He wants to do the remainder of Willow (sharrows) and Cedar St at the same time. Looking at College Ave for sharrows within the next 3 weeks. He will work with Kathleen to identify sharrow locations. Ron, Scott, and Charlie offered to help. Steve W had tried to put sharrows under street lights where possible, as well as just after intersections. Powderhouse Circle could be its own project. Terry also looking at Cameron Ave for this spring (Cambridge City Line to Holland). Ron suggested signage through the school property to connect to Broadway. Other possibilities: Holland Ave, Broadway (Alewife Brook Parkway to Teele Square).

8. SBC Guidebook (best practices): Lauren asked to be involved as we put this together.

ACTION ITEM SUMMARY:

Item #	Action Item	Responsible
29	Take a fresh look at the proposed bike lane ordinance.	Scott and Alan
40	Look into the costs and options for a banner.	Steve D
53	Create a list on paving priorities.	Alex
54	Create a list of sidewalk defects.	Lauren
56	Check on the status of Temple St. and lower Broadway.	Kathleen
57	Do a curb to curb measurement of Temple St.	Charlie
59	Create draft of 'Projects' page for SBC comments.	Steve
66	Send report to Google Maps re bike facilities in Somerville	Alex
67	Come up with road rage reduction proposal.	Scott and Lauren
68	Find out about adding another Somerville convoy to Bike Fridays.	Kathleen
69	Report back on Ciclovia ideas.	Scott
70	Report back on Boston Ave Medford bike lanes.	Ron

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m. The next meeting is 7:00 p.m., April 20, 2010 at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Denison, Vice Chairman, Somerville Bicycle Committee