



SOMERVILLE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Community Representatives Present:

Ken Carlson, Chair

Tom Lamar, Vice Chair

Emily Balkam

Mark Chase

Alex Epstein

Ted Feldman

Alex Frieden

Ted Lester

Kevin McGrath

Alan Moore

Brandon Stafford

Lena Webb

Michael Weber

Ex Officio Present:

Mike Tremblay, Office of Strategic Planning and Community Dev

Thursday Dec 6, 2018, 6:30-8:00 PM, Academy Room, Police Department, Washington St

Procedural, General Business & Updates (20 Minutes)

1. Guest introductions and sign-in sheet

Guests:

Walter Xu

Laura Borrelli

Arah Schuur

Jon Ramos

Jack McGrath

Gavin Lund

2. Acting Secretary: Brandon Stafford
3. VOTE: Approve November Minutes
November minutes approved, all in favor; none opposed.
4. SBAC terms and change in process of renewal- Katie

Ken wants to make membership renewal a little more active, to ensure everyone who's on the committee is active.

5. 2018 Annual Report- Coordinator need and timing

Talk to Ken if you can help.

6. Truck safety video training at DPW- Ken/Alex

We got some feedback from truck drivers that our video was not as sympathetic to truck drivers as we hoped, but overall it has been well-received. We're hoping to make an improved version in the future.

7. Bike Month Kick-off April 28th Sunday, 1-5 PM at Aeronaut.

City Update (30 min) Mike

1. Update on end of season bike facility work (i.e. Beacon St, Webster Ave, Powderhouse)

Beacon Street: painted on Sunday. Added bike lane where buffered lane will be next year.

Striping on 12/9.

RF O'Sullivan puddle fixed in 1-2 weeks.

Signal contractor in 2-3 weeks for Wash. at Beacon, Park and Beacon, HAWK at Buckingham.

Webster: flexposts up. Will get permanent paint in April or May of 2019.

Powderhouse Blvd: no additional work this year. Plan is to add climbing lanes toward Curtis Ave from Powderhouse Circle

and North Street.

Door zone bike lane from North to Curtis.

Door zone bike lane from Circle to Curtis.

Will get painted no earlier than June 1.

There is interest in the Committee to make a better bike facility than what the City is planning and there are several designs being discussed. We have to work hard over the winter to line up support. Mark Chase suggests we want neighborhood support by April 1 for traffic commission in May. We also need to leave time for the City to find an Engineer Firm to review and stamp.

2. White Street

No completion yet. Alderman Niedergang has volunteered to talk to Somerville residents on White Street.

3. Bike Count Data

There is a general trend of more bikes and peds. More data coming soon.

4. Park St- what needs to be done for Spring implementation

Mike will check that Traffic Commission has approved parking removals; hope to get started in first quarter of striping season.

5. Update on Vision Zero Committee progress

Meeting twice monthly. Enid Kumin, Jim Gallagher, Alex Epstein on commission. Draft action items are 90% done. An early draft will be available some time in January.

Vinal Ave flex post trial: reduced median speed by 7 mph. Will probably do some more spots next year.

Encouragement (10 min)

1. Winter Biking Clinic recap- Laura

13 visitors plus 9 presenters and helpers. Ran for 1.5 hours.

2. Lights- Laura

Next week, Tuesday 11th and Wednesday the 12th, and then the following Wednesday, December 19th, will give out lights. Need screwdrivers. Will be cold. Sign up. Kevin McGrath volunteers to help get more lights.

3. Tufts Bronze Award and better connections with Tufts

4. Illuminations Ride

Go on it. Want a connection to Diesel so they can give us hot drinks afterwards.

2018 in Review (30 min) Ken

1. SBAC 2018 Achievements

We did well at continuing community engagement.

We didn't do much in expanding partnerships.

Strengthened connections to SPD, Somerville Bike Kitchen.

2. Missed opportunities/disappointments

Follow-through on already-planned projects was bad, with the exception of Webster.

"What Could We Do Better" from Ken's slides are included below; full slides should be available on Box.

What Could We Do Better?	
	Votes
Membership and Meeting related	
Increase membership Diversity and Inclusion Efforts (Use SBC Newsletter and community Groups to Recruit)	6
Better Participation from Members	1
More Attendance and interaction with Ex-Officio Members (esp. T&P)	1
Empowering guests to get involved with Sub Teams and Specific Projects	1
Working with the City	
Inefficient planning with the City on infra and improvement projects (e.g. Cedar)	2
Convincing City to retime the budget to get line painting completed before cold weather	1
Get the City/MassDOT to finish an active project on time (HSIP, Beacon St, Webster St...)	1

What Could We Do Better?	
	Votes
How we can be more effective	
Gain a better understanding of how to move forward on small/low effort infrastructure (e.g. placing 1-2 bollards in strategic places to limit right hooks)	1
Picking 1 project per year that all teams work on	1
Focus on longer term issues, 2-3 years out	1
More discipline around setting and sticking to SBC priority projects and following a game plan	1
Data Collection	
Better data collection on important metrics of success. Adam can't do it all	1
Create digital bike map - levels of comfort facilities, street conditions, needed connections/facilities	1
Increase effort on wayfinding	1

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