



SOMERVILLE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Community Representatives:

Ken Carlson, Chair

Tom Lamar, Vice Chair

Katie Pierce, Secretary

Alex Anderson

Emily Balkam

Mark Chase

Alex Epstein

Alex Frieden

Enid Kumin

Kevin McGrath

Alan Moore

Brandon Stafford

Lena Webb

Ian Woloschin

Ted Lester

Brian Postlewaite (last meeting as official member)

Ex-Officio:

Skye Stewart, Office of the Mayor

Jesse Clingan, Board of Aldermen representative

Commissioner Stanley Koty, Department of Public Works

Terry Smith, Traffic and Parking

Deputy Chief Stephen Carrabino, Police Department

Mike Tremblay, Office of Strategic Planning and Community Dev.

Day/Date: Thursday Mar 1, 2018

Time: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Location: Police Department/ Washington Street

Procedural, General Business & Updates (35 min)

1. Guest introductions and sign-in sheet
 - a. Guests included: Zachary Zimmerman, Mark Vollinger II, Lillian Worth, Ted Feldman, Liza Burkin, Tyson Bottenus, Will Bosworth, Sky Rose, Michael Weber, Deniz Karakoyunin
2. Acting Secretary: Alex Anderson
3. VOTE: Approve Feb Minutes
 - a. A motion was made and second. The February SBAC Monthly Meeting Minutes were approved with no additions or comments.
4. Brian stepping down
 - a. Thanks to Brian for his 12+ years of service on the SBAC. He will continue to support the efforts of the Committee in a less formal role. He submitted an official resignation letter to the Committee and City which was shared
5. Annual Report update – Ken & Alex A
 - a. Annual report is in good condition. There are some parts to finalize, including an update on the Community Path, which had a big year. Lena Webb and Mike Tremblay will take the next steps with editing.
 - b. Photos from members of the Committee are still being collected for inclusion in the Annual Report.
6. Upcoming zoning reform – Tom
 - a. Somerville is in process of overhauling zoning code, which is out of date.
 - b. Current proposal provides design and installation standards for bike parking.
 - c. Parking requirements for cars and bike. Currently, insufficient guidelines for bike parking in zoning regulations. Proposal would include short term and long-term bike parking requirements. Car parking

zoning requirements currently require significant parking spaces for buildings. Proposal would address minimum and maximum car parking with the goal of decreasing requirements for car parking and decreasing building costs. Tom will draft a letter of support for the improved parking regulations.

7. SBAC Budget Requests – Ken
 - a. During our last meeting, Skye Stewart informed the Committee that the city is in process of developing next year's budget. Typically, the SBAC receives a general budget of \$500 for the year. This year, we are providing specific requests for City budget including printed maps, wayfinding signage, bike lights, and other materials.
 - b. SBAC should update a flyer to share with Traffic and Parking Department for inclusion in the materials provided to drivers as they start or renew parking permits.
 - c. Deadline for submission is currently unclear. A tentative deadline is in June 2018.

City Update- Mike (20 min)

1. 2017 Bike-Ped Counts Summary
 - a. Thanks to SBAC members and community members for volunteering and completing counts.
 - b. 2018 included a few new counting spots while still including the traditional locations.
 - c. Data included demographic data collection as well.
 - d. Increase in walking and biking in Somerville. Biking has increased threefold since 2010.
 - e. At Community Path at Willow, there was more pedestrian and cycling volume than motor vehicle utilization.
2. Timing of finishing 2017 projects
 - a. HSIP – MassDOT is helping with funding/installation of paint (and possibly flexposts for some locations) in Spring/Summer 2018. Exact timeline is unknown now.
 - b. Webster and Lower Medford repaving and flexpost installation – SBAC sent the City advisory letters on the importance of repaving these streets. Somerville Director of Engineering has responded to letters informing that the City is working to provide interim improvements.
 - c. Removal of guard rails on Webster at Prospect intersection – the City is continuing to pursue this and believes there is a possibility that this may happen as sewer work continues in this area.
3. Interim improvements at Beacon and Oxford St
 - a. Members of the SBAC, Mike Tremblay, and Captain James Donovan met to brainstorm interim improvements at the intersection leading into the protected bike lane on Beacon Street. Plans are not final as this stretch of road is likely to be ripped up and repaved in the next several weeks.

Urban Planning student projects – Mark & Liza (15 min)

- Mark Chase is teaching a course this semester focuses on infrastructure projects. One is a pedestrian focused study on the Kensington Underpass which connects Assembly Row and the Super Stop & Shop in Ward 1. Another study is looking at Powder House Square to evaluate if a modern round-about could fit in that space from a traffic perspective. Another is working towards a two-way, protected bike lane adjacent to Tufts' campus on College Ave and Powder House Boulevard.
- Liza Burkin and Deniz Karakoyunin, both guests at the SBAC Meeting, presented a project proposal for a Mystic River to Charles River connector path, which would connect the existing path at Assembly Row to the future Community Path.

Report back on DPW Snow removal meeting – Ian (10 min)

- Ian, Ken, and Lena met with DPW to discuss improvements to provide feedback on snow removal in winter 2017-2018 and possible improvements for the future. DPW was receptive of the proposed ideas and also voiced concerns around their budgetary and machinery constraints. Prioritization of areas for DPW to clear first during storms may help improve outcomes.
- Somerville's 311 app is an effective tool to use to report issues. SBAC members and the public are encouraged to

use the 311 app to report non-emergency issues.

Encouragement Update- Bike Month Kick-off- Alex A (10 min)

- The annual Bay State Bike Month Kick Off Event is scheduled for April 29 from 12:00-5:30p at Aeronaut Brewing Company. The invite to tabling organizations and entertainment groups has been shared. RSVP's are due by March 9, 2018. The Facebook Event page will be made and shared shortly.
- SBAC members are encouraged to promote the event and show up to help table for the SBAC.

Banter over Beer with Brian