

SOMERVILLE BICYCLE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Joseph A. Curtatone
Mayor

Community Representatives

Alan Moore , Chairman

Peter Coyle , Vice Chairman

Enid, Secretary

Jing Dai

Charles Denison

Jim Gallagher

Ron Newman

Brian C. Postlewaite

Doris Schartel

Ex-Officio

Mike Lambert, Office of the Mayor

Bob Trane, Board of Alderman

Commissioner Stanley Koty, Department of Public Works

Terry Smith, Traffic & Parking

Stephen Winslow, Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development

Chief Anthony Holloway, Police Department

MEETING MINUTES: Tuesday, February 17, 2009, 7:00 p.m., City Hall

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: Alan, Ron, Charlie, Brian, Enid, Peter & Doris

EX-OFFICIO: Steve W.

GUESTS: Lauren Clayton, Steve DaSilva

PROCEDURAL BUSINESS:

1. Meeting called to order at 7:15 p.m..
2. Minutes: The Committee voted all in favor to approve the January minutes, as amended.
3. Enid is unable to write minutes. Brian volunteered.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. OSPCD Bike Plan: No major comments noted. Charlie noted that plan should prioritize initiatives. Question on what the purpose of the plan was; it is for the City-Wide Transportation Plan Sergiu Luchian and OSPCD is developing. Question on when it will be due?
2. Bike Map: Steve D. provided a sample of the modifications provided to the Somerville By Bike map, that included a new, dotted symbol designating routes with bike lanes. Discussion on whether or how to include sharred lane markings (SLMs). Conclusion, to show significantly long stretches of SLMs with a double dot pattern (** ** **). Short sections of SLMs would not be noted.
3. Online Bike Map: Once the Somerville By Bike map is revised, we will proceed to create an online Google Map. This would allow us to create a variety of maps (bike racks, routes, lanes, quiet streets, etc.) that can be turned on & off depending on users preferences. If we could create standardized colors and symbols, we could coordinate with Cambridge and other nearby communities to create a more comprehensible online bike map.
4. Somerville/Beacon Intersection: Steve W. received a response from MHD via DCI that they do not want to revise the plans since it was an approved plan, despite their agreement prior to construction to provide minor changes, such as bike lanes at this intersection, in the field during construction. Steve W. is also

trying to attain consensus within the city that bike lanes at this location is important. To gain City consensus the Committee is willing to forgo a bike box, since this is the biggest sticking point with DPW and T&P as it is not included in MUTCD. **Proposal:** Brian & Steve W. to draft a letter to the mayor requesting support on this issue. **Vote: all in favor.**

5. Historic Bike Ride: Date currently scheduled for Saturday May 30, raindate will be Sunday May 31.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Annual Elections: All three officer positions are open. Each discussed and voted on individual:
 1. Secretary: Enid is stepping down. Steve offered to be Secretary. Discussion on whether he can hold that position or not, since he is not yet a member. Conclusion, Enid would continue to be the official secretary, and Steve would record and distribute minutes for the next three months under Enid's guidance, pending another vote of approval. **Vote: unanimous.**
 2. Vice Chairman: Peter is stepping down. Charlie was nominated and accepted. Doris was nominated and declined. **Vote: unanimous for Charlie.**
 3. Chairman: Alan is stepping down. Brian was nominated and accepted. Peter was nominated and declined. **Vote: unanimous for Brian.**
2. New Members: Steve DaSilva and Lauren Clayton expressed interest in joining the Committee. The process is to submit a letter of request and resume addressed to the Mayor care of Steve W. The committee will review letters of request and resumes, and interview the candidate at the next meeting. The Committee will then vote whether to recommend the candidate or not. Committee recommendation is not required for the Mayor to nominate candidate to the committee. Question on whether there is room on the Committee for additional members. Steve W. will check bylaw and Alan will see if Jing Dai intends to continue her membership.
3. Community Path b/n Cedar & Lowell: MaxPak developers have proposed using Stimulus Funds on parts of the project, including the construction of the Community Path at this location. Does the Committee think this is acceptable? **Proposal:** The Somerville Bicycle Committee is in favor of MaxPak and the City working together to use Stimulus Funding, if at all possible, both to extend the Community Path to Lowell Street and to provide temporary ADA and bike access to Lowell Street. **Vote: all in favor.**
4. Union Square: Alan is on the committee that is replanning Union Square, he would like an opinion from the Committee to provide to the Union Square Committee. **Proposal:** Any final design of Union Square accommodate bicycles on all main streets (Somerville Avenue, Washington Street, Prospect Street, Bow Street and Webster Avenue) with bike lanes at minimum, and the Committee get the opportunity to review design plans prior to approval. **Vote: all in favor.**
5. Mystic River Parkway Alewife Bridge Reconstruction: DCR under the Accelerated Bridge Program is reconstructing this bridge. A public meeting will be held soon; Charlie and Ron will be attending. Discussion of how the reconstruction would best benefit cyclists, widened sidewalk, bikelanes, shoulders, shared-use-path, etc. **Proposal:** Atleast one sidewalk, preferably on the north side, should be at least 12' wide to accommodate a shared-use-path in order to connect the Mystic River and Alewife Brook path systems. **Vote: all in favor.**
6. Davis Square Community Path: Steve W. presented the most recent plans for the reconstruction of the Community Path through Davis Square. Some discussion, no decisions.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. The next meeting is 7:00 p.m., March 17, 2009 at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian C. Postlewaite,
Acting Secretary