

SOMERVILLE BICYCLE COMMITTEE

PUBLIC MEMBERS

Police Jim Hodgdon
Traffic & Parking Todd Blake
OHCD Tuck O'Brien
Mayor's Office Heather Rowe
Alderman Sean O'Donovan
Dept. Public Works David Dow

MEETING MINUTES Meeting held November 26, 2002

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AGENDA Announcements, City Report, Friends of the Community Path, Events,
Subcommittees, Bicycle Guidelines,

ATTENDEES Turil Cronburg Jim Gallagher Ron Newman Greg Palmer
Bhupesh Patel Tuck O'Brien—OHCD

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Vice-Chair Turil Cronburg
Jim Gallagher
Ron Newman
Chairperson Greg Palmer
Secretary Bhupesh Patel
Andy Rubel
Domenic Siraco
Lars Kellogg-Stedman

1. **Minutes approved** – for October 22nd meeting. Next meeting is Dec. 18th @ VNA 6:30pm. Please be punctual.
 - The Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) is located at 259 Lowell Street, Somerville. Tel. 617.776.9800
2. **Announcements** –
 - Request made to have all subcommittees come up with a use for volunteers.
 - **Bhupesh** has copy of Safe routes to schools pilot program from Arlington and will review and propose a program for Somerville in February.
 - A notice in Somerville Journal for new members was issued. **Bhupesh** noted a need to recruit candidates with "Talent and Time".
 - **Alewife Masterplan Public Meeting** was attended and SBC was represented by **Bhupesh** and **Greg**. Concerns for Dilboy Field and the general support were made.
 - **North Point development** Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) deadline for comments is Dec. 9. **Bhupesh** and **Jim** will draft a letter.
 - **Mystic River Consortium** meeting spearheaded by Tufts was attended by **Bhupesh**. The need for "connectivity" between the three river crossings from Somerville to neighboring cities were presented.
 - **Nathan's Tufts Park** Bike Racks were resolved by **Greg** and **OHCD**, Office of Housing and Community Development.
 - **Davis Square connection** of Bike/pedestrian path across the square from the MBTA North Head House to the MBTA South Head House were discussed at a separate meeting with the city.
 - i. Alternates were discussed and will be represented by Tuck.
 - ii. Deadlines for project will be inquired by Tuck
 - iii. "On road commuter route" and a "stop and Sop" route were determined.
 - iv. A second meeting will be held. Contact **Greg** for any comments you may want included.
3. **City Report** - Tuck O'Brien
 - CVS proposal is up for initial review at the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) on Dec. 18th.
 - i. Tuck sent a request to ZBA for location and design of bike racks.
 - ii. SBC reviewed landscape plan. Floor plans were unavailable so entrance was undetermined.
 - iii. Tuck will inquire with architect to determine potential bike rack locations
 - Ron Farrar, a city planning staff member, will be handling the RFP for the Community Path
 - 5 Year consolidated plan has been completed for Somerville economic development.
 - i. One year plans will be drafted every fall with the five year plan as context.
 - ii. Some projects include Middlesex Avenue streetscape and Fellsway undercarriage.
4. **Friends of the Community Path (FCP)**– Joel Bennett, Turil Cronburg, Bhupesh Patel
 - The lease from the MBTA is being resolved. There is an issue with the environmental liability and who will bear the responsibility of discovered contaminants and future clean up/ liability.
 - They have been awarded and administered the Mass Pike Tourism Grant, \$50,000.
 - After "25% design stage" is completed the city will be eligible for Fed. Transportation Enhancement Funds
 - **Bhupesh** has organized meeting with Alta Planning and the City of Somerville for Dec. 6th @ City Hall to help resolve potential costs for the preliminary design and geological studies.
 - **Continued....**

5. **MassBike Bike Night** – Turil and Andy attended
 - Jill Stein, ?? and Tim Toomey, ??, were present.
 - Lauren Adams has been appointed the Mass. Highway Dept. Pedestrian and Bike Project Manager
 - **Andy Rubel** received an award for lifetime achievement.
 - Massbike received an award for \$5000.00 from the Charles River Wheelman Grant.
6. **Routes map** – Turil Cronburg, Tuck O'Brien, Bhupesh Patel
 - The current map will be distributed as a flyer with the mayor's name, and the city of Somerville insignia.
 - **Turil** noted that Tufts also requested involvement with copies and distribution.
 - **Bhupesh** noted the routes map does not presume a bicycle "plan". Rather, **Bhupesh** will complete a draft for an "Interim plan" and a "long term plan". This should clear up the many questions that arose from the routes map as well as allow the SBC to strategize their efforts and prioritize their focus.
7. **Traffic and Regulations Subcommittee** – Jim Gallagher
 - **Tuck** noted the Alderman can mandate the police to enforce bicycle rights and responsibilities.
 - The "other" category on the traffic ticket will be used to enforce Bicycle Rights and responsibilities.
 - The community police would be very enthused by the encouragement of bicycle enforcement
8. **Bicycle Guidelines** – Turil Cronburg, Tuck O'Brien, Bhupesh Patel
 - "Evolving Guidelines" title will be renamed to reflect the fact that it is an overall masterplan.
 - i. Maps
 - ii. Regulations discussed up to point three. The remainder will be reviewed by subcommittee.
 - iii. Set of standards for bike lane treatments
 - iv. Guidelines for Bike racks will be developed in March
 - v. Squares will be dealt with individually.
 - vi. A "record" with a timeline of prioritized infrastructure projects
 - Pilot work programs will be the next order of business
 - i. Safe routes to school
 - ii. Incentive programs for "Bike racks for business"
 - iii. Awareness and education of young people, and general public
 - iv. Etc.
 - Galvanize constituents
 - i. Recruit members with "Talent and Time".
 - ii. Build subscriber roster (community advocates) with a periodic newsletter.
 - iii. Institute form letter of support for mass "on demand" distribution.
 - Please be ready to have any additional comments of the above scope at next meeting
9. **Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm**

Please notify SBC at www.ci.somerville.ma.us/boards/bicycle/asp of any discrepancies, within **seven days** of release date below and JLevine@ci.somerville.ma.us for any inquiries.

cc. all community and public members stated above, City of Somerville web site, and generous "community volunteers" and community advocates