

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 May 27, 2003

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AGENDA City Report, Bike Week, Washington Street reconstruction, Other Projects, Community Path RFP, Announcements

ATTENDEES Turil Cronburg Jim Gallagher Alan Moore Asher Miller Ron Newman
Greg Palmer Jenifer Kaminsky Dominic Siraco Tuck O'Brien-OHCD Jim Hodgdon-Police
Tim Ledlie-visitor (He put together a bike tour of Cambridge during Bike Week; and is starting up a non-profit student run bike shop, Quad Bikes, for the Harvard community: www.quadbikes.org (not to be confused with Quad Cycles in Arlington))

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson Turil Cronburg
Vice Chair Jim Gallagher
Jenifer Kaminsky
Alan Moore
Asher Miller
Ron Newman
Greg Palmer
Secretary Bhupesh Patel
Domenic Siraco

1. Alan Moore was welcomed as a new official member. Bhupesh will get him a copy of the Committee's bylaws
2. **City Report –**
 - Somerville Ave. plans have been revised, the City is waiting on 75% design. The city is expecting that the project will now be ready for construction in FY 2005. The drainage portion of the project will need to be done first
 - Beacon St. roadway project also has a drainage project, scheduled to start in July 2003. The roadway project is currently scheduled for 2004. The drainage project will take one year, one half of the roadway will be closed at any time, in 3-400 foot sections. Beacon St is currently at 25% design, but 75% should be ready in about a month. The Bicycle Committee will look at the plans soon. There will be a public meeting on the flood control portion of the project on June 3, 7 PM, at JFK School on Elm St.
 - College Ave. is also in bad shape and city will try to get this project done in FY2004.
 - MassHighway also has the plan developed by the Bicycle Committee for an improve bicycle connection through Davis Square.
 - The Traffic And Parking Committee has a backlog of post/rings to be installed in front of a number of small businesses. Previously they had charged about \$140 per, but this did not cover costs. They will be charging \$400 for future installations. Alan and Dominic volunteered to serve on the bike parking subcommittee with Bhupesh, and they will contact Todd Blake of T & P to see what they can do to help with locations, and eventually publicity for the program.
 - Lowell St. bridge – there is a need to maintain pedestrian access. Tuck will check on plans.
 - The first Route 28 Corridor Study public meeting took place on May 20. Jim, Bhupesh, and Tuck are on the advisory committee and will keep the bicycle committee up to date.
 - Construction on the three Route 28 intersections (Broadway, Pearl, Medford) will begin this summer.
 - Community Path design – the contract is still under negotiation – the ramp to Lowell St. has been added to the design- but the design project should start soon.
3. **Bicycle Week**
 - The second annual Historical Ride was held on Saturday May 17th. There was a good turnout, and the ride was completed to the end.
 - "Goodie" bags were distributed in Davis Square, Union Square, and at the Beacon/Washington St intersection. About 60 bags were distributed.
4. **Washington Street**
 - The reconstruction plans, from under Route 28/ McGrath Highway to the City Line with Charlestown, are part of the mitigation for the Central Artery, which is expected to increase traffic in this corridor
 - Plans were reviewed at the meeting.
 - City has already sent comments to MassHighway.
 - The Somerville Bike Committee will send comments soon. Contact Greg if you want to help with the review.
5. **Other**
 - It was agreed that there would be a future review of the design of bicycle lanes, including problems with right turning vehicles and proper queueing practices.
 - A meeting of anyone interested in working the Guidelines document, particularly the parking section, was set up for Friday at City Hall. Jim Hodgdon will make sure that the police review the Guidelines document.
 - The planning meeting for the Spice of Life festival will take place on Thursday-Ron agreed to go and find out if there is interest in the SBC setting up bike valet parking, as was done in the past. Turil will check with MassBike on logistics.

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- For Art Beat the SBC will include information at a table with the Friends of the Community Path
- Tour de Somerville – a tentative date was set as Saturday, October 18. Volunteers are needed to help with the planning.
- A webmaster is needed for the SBC web page-if anyone knows someone who might want to volunteer, please contact Greg or Asher. If anyone has any ideas on content, please contact Asher.

6. Announcements

- There is a meeting focusing on Citywide transportation issues on June 11.
- Andy Rubel's Car-Free in Boston is out.
- Turil will contact all members to get updated contact information.
- Signs prohibiting bicyclists on sidewalks in Davis Square are up at the entrances. Traffic and Parking will put up signs within the square as well, and also in Union Square. Contact Greg if you have suggestions.
- Next meeting will be June 24 at 6:30 PM, possibly at the Visiting Nurses Association. Turil will check on availability.

7. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm