

## Minutes of the Cambridge Bicycle Committee Meeting, June 8, 2011

Present: George Perkins, Cara Seiderman, Catharine Hornby, Richard Holton, Viola Augustin, Adam Serafin (MIT), Taylor Walker, Bill Connolly, Devin Mann, Sam Lipson, Carole Sousa, John Goodman, , Seth Zeren, Megan Krey,  
Guests: Pendleton Thomas, Matt Schrumph, Christopher Vaughan

The minutes of the of the May meeting were approved.

There was much celebration over the success of the Spring Cambridge Ride with its musical theme; congratulations and thanks were offered to the organizers, and all those who helped. Thanks also to the police and the companies who provided the food. At its peak the ride had around 300 people on it, almost double the previous best. This caused some logistical problems, with considerably more people to handle. There was discussion of whether such large numbers could be expected again (it was a particularly beautiful day, and live music is a particularly strong draw), and if so how things they might be accommodated: perhaps by choosing a route away from traffic, or perhaps by breaking the ride into two or more groups, traveling at different speeds. Taylor Walker has set up a Flickr page for photos from the ride. Themes for the next two rides were discussed: perhaps an African-American theme in Fall, and a science theme in Spring (with possible cooperation with the Cambridge Science Fair).

There was a discussion of forthcoming meetings, including those for Kendall Sq, Central Sq, Cambridge Common, Grand Junction Railroad and Mass Ave. Volunteers came forward to attend all of the meetings.

Kendall Square: **Viola Augustin has taken Richard Holton's place on the committee.** A proposal to develop the sidewalk on the north side of Main Street in the vicinity of the T-Stop was discussed. The committee was sympathetic to the idea of an on-street bike lane, since it was acknowledged that a separated bike path – although desirable -- could be complicated given the large number of pedestrians and also access to the transit vehicles. However, several also noted the benefits of separated facilities generally as the best way to support new riders. It was felt that access onto such a lane from the Longfellow Bridge and from 3rd St should be considered as part of the same project.

Grand Junction: concern was expressed that the proposal to use the line for a Worcester commuter rail was inconsistent with the earlier plan for a Rail-with-Trial use.

Bike Lane Study: Cara reported that the bike lane study in Mass Ave and Prospect St was going forward. Some enthusiasm was expressed for a meeting with those who draw the bike lanes to discuss pavement marking techniques.

Bike Share project (Hubway). Cara reported that the City hopes to install Hubway facilities in the fall to extend the network into Cambridge. There will be a need to create new zoning language to permit stations on private property. The committee agreed to write a letter in support of this, drafted by Catharine.

River St/Western Avenue Bridge: there was some preliminary discussion of proposals for cycle tracks on the bridge (as per previous meeting). The committee voiced its support, but await more detailed plans for full review.

Cambridge Common: Cara presented the plans to provide a bike path routing traffic from Harvard Sq, across Flagstaff garden and on to the northbound section of Mass Ave. They were well received. The committee will formally endorse the plan.

Lakeview Ave: Cara discussed plans to install rain gardens; these would probably be inconsistent with a planned bike lane (currently partially in place). Catharine expressed the view that if there were traffic calming as part of the plan, a separate bike lane was probably not necessary.

Fixit Station: Cara reported that a new station had been bought, and asked people to think of where it might be installed (preferably under cover).

The next meeting—the potluck—is planned for July 13 at **Seth's apartment, subject to confirmation.**