

## **Draft Minutes of the Cambridge Bicycle Committee Meeting September 2013**

Present: Cara Seiderman, John Goodman, Andrea Williams, Taylor Walker, Michael Proscia, Katherine Howitt, Jonathan Adams, Peter Stokes, Ingrid Schorr, Jim Wilcox (DPW), Randy Stern, Brenda Pike, Ken Williams (MIT), Ari Ofsevit, Tom Meek, Ben Hammer (Harvard), Madeleine DuBois, Amy Linne

### Agenda Review, Approval of Minutes, Other Logistics

September Minutes approved

### Bow Tie Ride

The committee had another successful and well attended ride (special thanks to John). The committee discussed ways to improve our next ride. There was a comment on the CambridgeBikes facebook page about improving the safety of the ride, especially related to younger or new riders. The committee brainstormed several ways we could make improvements. First, posting videos or tutorials related to safety for a group ride on the ride website, Tom volunteered to come up with possible videos. Another idea is to coordinate a bike workshops (which the city is already offering) to occur right before the ride and to advertise it on our flyer/map. We could also include safety tips on our flyer/map that we hand out before the ride. Another idea would be to have a police officer to make safety announcements before the ride. Another ride component that the committee discussed was the food vendors. We may need more food on future rides but it could be simpler. The problem is that vendors like Trader Joe's and Whole foods are getting harder to sign up perhaps we could take advantage of discounted fresh produce in bulk (slightly bruised apple/bananas etc). The last item that was discussed was a way to hand out water that isn't pre bottled. There are some challenges to bulk water (transport, drinking receptacles for people who don't have water bottles etc) but the committee will continue to brainstorm ideas. Cara and John will coordinate to send thank you letters to the sponsors on the city letterhead. The spring ride will be May 17th 2014.

### Park(ing) Day

Katherine gave a recap of the Parking Day event. (Thank you to all the people who volunteered.) We had a lot of foot and bicycle traffic visit our parking spot and make comments on the large map of the city. The committee brainstormed on more ways we can use marking up a large map to gather public comments in an informal way in the future. Perhaps bringing it to a public location like a main square or a school.

### Review of Ground Rules for the Committee

The committee discussed the proposed groundrules for meetings (see separate handout). The committee was in agreement about the rules except for the chair having to recognize members before speaking as the meetings tend to follow a natural discussion flow. In the case where multiple members want to talk the chair will make sure everyone has the opportunity.

### Committee Projects / Subcommittee Reports

The infrastructure committee is still figuring out a way to compile their street survey data and the information collected at Parking Day. Matt will send out a doodle poll for the next meeting.

There is a new idea for a sub committee to do social outreach. They could organize events, informal meet and greet etc. and invite people to come and talk to committee members about biking in Cambridge. This could also tie into to the city's effort to increase its social media

presence. Brenda, Ingrid and Tom all expressed interest in setting up the sub committee's first meeting.

There was a joint meeting with the bicycle and pedestrian committee with the Healthy Children's Task Force. This joint group is going to come up with a plan to participate in the Safe Routes to School Program and look into a possible grant.

#### DPW update

Jim gave an update from the DPW (see separate handout). The stormwater wetland portion of the Mass DOT bicycle path at Alewife is complete the opening is 10/15.

#### DCR Resource Meeting

There is a public meeting at Shriners Children's Hospital on 10/10 to discuss resource management along the Charles.

#### Garden Street Bike Priority Project

There will be an upcoming meeting on the design for this bike priority street. The fire department has rejected the proposal of adding raised intersections to slow traffic, because of potential impact to emergency vehicles. Randy will contact the Pedestrian committee about drafting a response letter.

#### Hubway

Hubway has had a great year in Cambridge. A big thank you is owed to the Universities who have contributed substantially in order to have stations on or near their campuses. The City is considering having some year round stations.

#### Announcements

Please take a moment to fill out the Kendall Square Bike rack survey.

The Superhero run on 10/27 in Central Square is looking for bike volunteers to help escort the runners, contact John if you are interested.

#### Next Committee Meeting Wednesday November 13th

The December meeting will be a joint meeting with the Pedestrian Committee on Wednesday Dec. 11th. We will also invite the new formed Public Transportation Committee.