Pedestrian Committee meeting – January 26, 2017

MINUTES

Present: Liza Cohen, Jodie Cohen-Tanugi, Debby Galef, Magda McCormick, Sean Peirce, Joseph Rose, Sam Stern, Andrea Yoder; Staff: Dana Benjamin (TP&T), Brian McLane (DPW), Matt Nelson (Police), Cara Seiderman (CDD)

Stacey King – commuter choice office at Harvard joined this time…

I. Agenda review, minutes
   a. November Minutes approved

II. Infrastructure projects
   a. Inman Sq: 3 committee meeting (transit, bike, ped) to talk Inman square
      i. Feb 13 for the tri-committee meeting (Monday), have it quickly, so the committees have real inputs, not just perfunctory / after-the-fact…
      ii. 3 options for the redesign – including a peanut-shaped roundabout...
      iii. Inman Square Plans are available on this site (see Documents)
      iv. Survey to send out…
   b. Huron Ave / Concord Ave / Garden Ave – all done this year…
   c. Chapter 90 projects –
      i. Lawn Street complete street project
   d. Separated bike lanes going reasonably well (so far)
      i. 5 holder snow removal thingies – first time this year that they were on routes…
      ii. Chevy Colorado with a six-foot blade to do the bike lanes…
      iii. Cambridge Street – between Harvard Sq and Hampshire Street will be next, as will
      iv. Mass Ave between Putnam Ave and Bow Street…
      v. Planning on the data collection needed (counts, surveys, etc.)…
      vi. Kirkland/Cambridge/Broadway idea from Liza – count cyclists there to see whether routes have shifted
      vii. Sam suggests a minimum network like the Canadian cities have done...

III. Signal policies
   a. There had been a citizen complaint about a change that was made at Shepard and Mass Ave.
   b. Signal Policy is that pedestrians concurrent most of the time, often with LPI (Leading Pedestrian Interval)...exceptions though
      i. Lakeview & Huron (some requests for changing this)
      ii. Garden and Linnaean – is this a location where people should have to push a button for a walk signal?
iii. Putnam & Pearl went from signal to stop sign...Matt said police got a lot of blown stop sign calls on this one...

IV. Police updates –  
   a. Women self-defense courses coming up,  
      http://www.cambridgema.gov/cpd/communityresources/selfdefensetraining  
   b. Police officer recruitment – test in March  
   c. Auxiliary police officers – volunteers, etc.  
   d. 25 mph? You have to clock a car going over speed limit for ¼ mile to do enforcement ...So hard to get people on this in Cambridge where there are not many stretches that long between signals  
      i. Proposal for DCR roads to match the city that they’re in – so could get Memorial Drive and Alewife Brook Parkway, could be down to 25...  
      ii. Bike lane bill signed by governor this month: fine is now $50 for parking in a bike lane throughout the state  
   e. Vision Zero – Sean is our representative to the VZ committee...

V. Development project reviews...  
   a. Struggling to keep up with the volume of projects to comment on...  
   b. Liza proposed that we swap off who is reviewing what each month, so that we are sort of bringing a point of view on what a big project is and looks like, and can point the rest of the committee members to the relevant sections of a development proposal...  
   c. Cara will send out some of the proposals and ask for volunteers to review some of the proposals...

VI. Committee work  
   a. Liza’s idea: “Best improvement of the year award” – collecting ideas throughout the year...  
      i. Categories – best development, best improvement  
      ii. Private sector –  
      iii. “The Peddies”  
      iv. Add this as a standing agenda item and we’ll capture them in the minutes...  
   b. Publishing “Getting Around Cambridge” magazine – universities might participate a bit too...inspired by Bike Life magazine from Boulder that has spread to other cities. Ours better b/c it’s multi-modal...anticipated to be out by May 1st...  
      i. Annual magazine, we hope...  
      ii. Could publicize the “Peddies”  
   c. The walk? Alewife – June 10/11 seems about right...  
      [Update: confirmed with Jen L. that June 10 is good]  
      i. North Cambridge, that’s more interesting?  
      ii. Let’s come up with a few different routes...  
      iii. Alewife sounds like it is the place...  
      iv. Stacey, Jodie, Debby...Liza...Find a Friday afternoon to walk it...  
      v. Committee walks – Volpe...Harvard or something?  
         1. East Cambridge might be something...And connect it to the Volpe center...  
         2. July – let’s do it...