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MEETING MINUTES Meeting held April 27, 2004, VNA, Lowell St., Somerville

AGENDA City Report, Bicycle Guidelines, Member Recruitment, 2004 Priorities, Subcommittees, Clyde St. Redevelopment, Announcements

ATTENDEES Present: Bhupesh Patel, Greg Palmer, Jim Gallagher, Alan Moore
 Absent: Asher Miller, Jenifer Kaminsky
 Officials: Stephen Winslow – OHCD
 Community Path Rep: Joel Bennett
 Visitors: Jennifer Hill, Helen Mahan

1. Minutes Approved – March 2004 meeting minutes were approved after some corrections were made. It was noted that at least 7 days should be available for reviewing draft minutes before the following meeting is held.

2. Active Living by Design - met with representative Helen Mahan from the Robert Wood Johnson Active Living by Design program whose grant is funding Steve Winslow's position and many other program in Somerville. All the partners in the Somerville program met in the morning and she was taken on a 4 hours bike tour of Somerville. Somerville's program will be a model for urban areas to improve the built environment for active living.

3. City report -

a. Community Path

Cedar to Central - Discussions are continuing on how the Path can cross Cambridge Health Alliance's property at Central St. without eliminating too many parking spaces. One alternative is a temporary routing through the parking lot with the goal of a more separated Path in the future. The proposed design will be submitted to the MBTA for their support/approval. How much parking can fit with the Path at the south side of Cedar St. was also discussed.

School St. to Cambridge city line – 5 proposals were received and a group has chosen 2 firms as finalists for the Design contract.

Clyde St. Redevelopment – the developer has one idea of a dual use – access road and Community Path along the abandoned Railroad Right of Way. The committee is not in favor of this possibility. A second access is proposed from Lowell St. between the two bridges but requires a curb cut added to Bridge renovation.

Mass Highway Department Davis Sq to Alewife improvements - Meeting set for May 13th 2004 at the 7pm at the TAB Building will include some discussion of Belmont and Cambridge sections.

b. Stop and Shop

Bhupesh and Steve have spoken with a Stop & Shop representative about bicycle (covered) parking, bike access, and pedestrian access to the new Stop & Shop. He'll provide us with a conceptual design for I-93 access/crossing.

Ron made a motion that was seconded and approved. It calls for Alan to write a letter to the Planning Board, OHCD and Traffic and Parking (cc: to Stop and Shop) stating that the SBC recommends that a dedicated crosswalk for pedestrians and bicycles be added to the proposed new traffic light at the intersection of Blakely St. and Rt. 28 in order that Rt. 28 to accommodate the strong "desire line" from Foss park to the Stop and Shop.

c. Lowell St. Bridge - The project went out to bid. OHCD is still looking for the plans. Presumably they don't interfere with the future Path construction.

d. Steve provided a proposed process to coordinate SBC activities with various, appropriate City Departments

e. About 50 people joined the walk along the Mystic River and Earhart dam from Wellington T station on April 24th.

4. Membership -

a. Anyone who has contacted or contact the City or the SBC will be invited to the next (May) meeting

b. It was suggested that a flyer be prepared to advertise needing new members for the SBC that can be handed out at Bike Week activities, etc.

5. Subcommittee Action Items –

a. Bhupesh distributed an excellent "SBC Plan" that categorized our 2004 priorities into the Bicycle MasterPlan, Programs, and Community Involvement

- b. Bhupesh will write showing SBC support for the Mystic River Path continuation through MBTA property in Charlestown
- c. Alan will write the letter supporting a bike/ped crossing of Route 28 at the new Stop & Shop (S&S)
- d. Steve, Bhupesh and Jim will work on the draft bike parking ordinance
- e. BP & SW will continue communications with S&S on possible bike and ped improvements
- f. Greg & Bhupesh will continue to follow plans for developments along the Path at 131 Willow and 35R Lexington
- g. Greg will concentrate on educating the public on sidewalk bicycling rules and will draft an addition to the Bicycling Guidelines on road pavement patching
- h. Ron will concentrate on organizing bike tours and events and route and mapping of bicycling routes in the City
- i. Greg & Jim will concentrate on bike accommodations in Somerville's streets
- j. Bhupesh will concentrate on implementation of the Bicycling Master Plan and the Bike Parking Ordinance
- k. Alan will concentrate on the bike ring locking program with Joel and with safe routes to schools programs
- l. We will request that Asher and Jenifer volunteer to concentrate on some particular activities

6. Announcements –

- a. April 28 – Active Living by Design walking meeting with Mark Fenton, at the High School Library, 10 am – 2 pm, Joel and Bhupesh are planning to attend
- b. May 2nd - The Herring Run
- c. May 6 – Planning Board meeting on the new Stop and Shop. Bhupesh can't attend
- d. May 13th - MHD Davis Sq to Alewife improvements, Meeting at 7pm at the TAB Building on Holland St.
- e. May 19th – tentative date for a Community Meeting on the Clyde St. development
- f. May 22 - Third annual Historic Tour of Somerville

7. Meeting Adjourned 9:05pm