



Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

Town of Watertown
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS
STEVE ENGLER, CHAIR
SHEILA FAY
JANET JAMESON
MARIA SAIZ
NATALIE TRUESDELL
ETHAN DAVIS
NICK CUTIA

December 2013 MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

Committee Members: Sheila Fay, Janet Jameson, Nick Cutaia, Ethan Davis, Steve Engler, Natalie Truesdell
Guests: One Hwang (Northeastern University student),

1. Acceptance of Minutes
2. Committee Members: Steve Engler will be stepping down as chair of the Committee. Ethan Davis was voted in and accepted as new chair of the committee.
3. The Charles River Connectivity Study: The study includes three options to go through the Arsenal. But it did not include anything about the underpasses. There are some challenges based on cost to implement the recommended changes. Committee should review these and make comments for discussion in the January meeting. Comment period ends January 17, 2014.
4. MAPC Bike Parking Program: There is a new round of funding for the MAPC Bike Parking. Suggestion to reach out to the schools about bike parking needs. We may not be able to request additional funding for a school that already received funds. Committee decided the critical issue is to investigate the installation of the racks.
5. Watertown Greenway :
 - a. Phase 1 Clean Up: There were about 40 people that came out for a path clean-up organized by Janet Jameson and John Hecht in November. There were some larger debris such as a tire. There was discussion to have it in the Spring. We may want to add it the paper.
 - b. Phase 2 Progress: No updates
 - c. Connection to Charles River: Janet has been speaking with someone at Athena Health about their potential role in supporting the connection.
6. Riding on Sidewalk Ordinance: The ordinance revision has been submitted to the town manager's office and the town manager will submit it to the town council. Steve Magoon has decide to hold this back, but will submit it to a future agenda.
7. Charles River Bridge Underpass Resolution: Town council endorsed the resolution supported by the bike committee and underpasses for Anderson Memorial, Western Avenue, and River Street bridges.
8. Bike Parking Ordinance: Steve Engler sent the bike parking ordinance draft to the committee. Need to consider consolidating the list of types of businesses in the ordinance. Another consideration for review is short term versus long term parking. Another consideration is whether to make it a long term versus short term a requirement. Committee will review this again for recommendations in January. Another consideration is adding more ring racks on the agenda.
9. Charles River Bike Lane: There are concerns about the Charles river road requiring new striping. Steve Engler will follow-up

10. Mt. Auburn Street: There are no updates on movement. There is copy of the presentation on the town planning website.
11. Moving Together Conference: Person who was scheduled to speak on this was not able to attend.
12. Greenough Boulevard Update: The Soloman Foundation plans have been incorporated into the comprehensive plan. The connection through the Cambridge cemetery is another potential option.
13. Comprehensive Plan Update: The plan is now under discussion with town staff. Many people have been interested in getting biking and pedestrian access as part of the plan. There should be a comment period once the plan is drafted.
14. MAPC Wellness Grant/Safe Routes to School Update: We should get a final wrap up from Jeanette Belcher. Natalie will add this.
15. A BU student is looking at the proposed Community path and developing a study of travel time, and look at how much the ridership would be increased with a safe path option. One Whang, Researcher, is looking to collaborate with MIT to use cell phone data to study travel patterns.
16. Meeting Schedule for 2014. 1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/7, 5/5, 6/2, 7/7, 8/4, 9/8, 10/6, 11/10, 12/1.