

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee Notes

Date:	11/17/2011
Meeting start:	7:35 p.m.

In attendance:			
Paul Sicard	Nora Loughane	Steve Olanoff	George Lester
Virginia Lester	Chris Giovino	Kela Klosi	Steve Harte
Wendy Muellers	Michael Kraft	John Craine	

Routine Business

Minutes from October were approved.

Updates from Previous Meeting

1. John Craine attended the traffic calming meeting in October. It is not the appropriate venue for recruiting new members for our committee.
2. Steve Harte spoke with Taryn Crocker who is heading up the Westwood Day Activities Planning Committee. She is excited about us planning an activity that would involve something active for youngsters and something informational for adults. Taryn will forward a planning sheet for us to use as we sketch out ideas for our involvement in Westwood Day.

New Business

1. Visitor from Needham. Gary Levine from Needham Bikes shared the group's experiences building an area cycling constituency. Their group is over 200 members strong. We discussed a goal of eventually coordinating a common plan among area towns.

Initiatives of Needham Bikes:

Begin to implement the Needham cycling plan from 2000 by first gathering support of town administrators.

a. Began building awareness of Needham as a bicycle-friendly town by posting 28 “Needham Bikes” signs at the entrances to the town in 2010. The town advocated for non-standard signs which often garner more attention. A grant from the Charles River Wheelmen allowed more signs to be posted on South Street.

b. They are also looking to use the existing safety lines as bicycle lanes.

c. Finally, they are looking to mark sharrows in the travel lanes on Webster Street.

d. Next year they will be revising the existing bicycle plan. They may enlist students from a local college to help with the work of revising the plan.

2. Paul Sicard shared information about LED lighting for streetlights.

3. Paul Sicard reported that we might have an Eagle Scout who is interested in helping to measure lighting levels at crosswalks.

4. John Craine met with Mike Jaillet, Vicki Quiram and Nora Loughnane about the future direction of our committee. Vicki Quiram is interested in our crosswalk lighting levels project. She would also like to see the problem intersection document that we created earlier. Donna McClelland is looking into developing an interactive commenting area on the town website. The Safe Routes to School program is of interest to the town leaders. Presently we do not have all schools enrolled in this program.

Action Needed for Next Meeting

1. Steve Olanoff will follow up with Ken Aries and the MBTA about installation of bike racks.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Next meeting will be the the 22nd of December at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Harte