



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## 09/19/2012 Minutes

Minutes for the ABAC meeting of September 19, 2012  
 Approved, October 24, 2012

Board members attending were Christopher Tonkin, Ron Sender, Scott Smith, Stephan Miller and Doug Greenfield. Joey Glushko and Todd Spivak were also present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm.

\*The minutes for the August meeting were approved after several changes were made.

Town Day Report. The most asked questions by the public at the ABAC Town Day booth were "when is Hubway coming to Arlington?" and "when are we getting more bicycle lanes in Arlington?" Ron told us that a number of people signed up for the email list. He asked if we now can sign people up for the Topica List or is it still necessary for people to enroll themselves? We then discussed the finer points of signing up for the Topica list. Moving to another topic, Ron asked what the age requirement is for young people to wear helmets because there was some confusion about the correct age at Town Day. He pointed out that a brochure that we have been handing out for years lists the incorrect age, and that we should get copies of an updated version for next year's Town Day.

TAC report. Scott told us that construction work on the Mass. Ave. Redevelopment Project might begin as soon as the next construction season. He then informed us that the latest iteration of the CLAMP redesign is the alternative with bicycle lanes along Mass Ave and a cycle track along Mystic Street by the Uncle Sam statue. The plan also includes the Mass. Ave. pedestrian/bicycle crossing at Swan Pl. This plan is entering the 25% design phase. Scott expects planning for this project to move faster than Mass. Ave. redevelopment because it is a smaller project.

Lake Street Minuteman Bikeway crossing. TAC has a task-group charged with dealing with the congestion on Lake St. One of their proposals is to coordinate lights at Brooks St. and the Bikeway. This plan would require a light at the bikeway crossing. Ron asked if there is a way to keep cars backed up from the Brooks St. light from blocking the bikeway right-of-way? Scott answered that this is one of the problems that the task-group is considering.

A flashing beacon will be installed at Mill St. as part of the Brigham Development. The light will be yellow facing Mill and red facing the bike path. The activation will light the signal when someone comes along the path.

Recreational Trails Grant Program status. Training for the volunteers assisting the program will take place on October 4. There will also be a three-hour ride in the morning for all stake holders. Both Stephan and Scott, who volunteered for the program, will be out of town on that day. Joey would like to see someone from ABAC on that ride.

Outreach to the Police Department. Jack, Chris, Todd and Stephan volunteered for this task. Nothing has been done on this project yet.

Bikeway Usage Guidelines. Before the last meeting, Joey sent out Lexington's guidelines for special uses of the bike path. We were going to create a working group to look at Lexington's document and make a recommendation. Scott and Stephan will work on this project later in the fall. Joey reminded us that, in Arlington, the Bikeway is under the jurisdiction of the Town Manager.

News and New Topics.

Moving Together. Scott reported that there was no response to his email plea that the Moving Together Project be restarted. Joey would like to see articles on updates in the law and also suggested the new topic of "questions asked

at the ABAC booth at Town Day.” Ron asked if there are other places, say on-line, where these articles could be posted. We came up with several alternatives. Scott suggested the Your Town section of the Boston Globe site.

Scott will try, once again, to get the writers group going. We will also print out past articles for distribution. Joey then suggested that we include the appropriate committees in Lexington and Bedford. Joey will reach out to these two towns and try to solicit their participation.

Open position on the Board. Scott suggested that we post the opening, once again, on the Town website and in the Advocate. Ron asked what requirements we need to ask for in a potential board member. Joey reminded us that ABAC used to represent people who walk as well as bicycle. She asked if we should be picking up that responsibility again. Scott thinks that this would be a significant change in the mission of the committee. Scott told us that he will make inquiries among walking advocates to see if there is interest in expanding the responsibilities of ABAC. We agreed that advocacy for pedestrians could be stronger in Arlington although it is a part of TACs mission. Ron suggested a related, but separate committee.

Photos on ABAC Web Pages. Joey thinks that we need to devise a policy on posting pictures on the web site. We discussed the matter and concluded that we should post pictures of current events and begin deleting the older ones.

Repaving design. Scott told us that the town engineer has asked for some input on the design of the striping on streets that are being repaved. Joey suggested that we advocate for “Complete Streets.” Scott proposed having a group of interested people to advise the DPW on this topic. Stephan and Scott volunteered for this duty.

Presentation to the Board of Selectmen. We read and revised the report written by Christopher and Scott. Christopher will present this report at the next Selectmen’s meeting.

Lastly, we discussed the announcement by the Arlington Police about increased enforcement of traffic laws particularly aimed at bicyclists. The announcement will take the form of an article in the next issue of the Advocate. We formulated a tentative non-adversarial response.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 pm.

\*Notes that a vote of the board was taken.

Minutes submitted by Stephan Miller