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Minutes, Mar. 1, 2010

ABAC Meeting Minutes for the meeting of March 1, 2010.
(approved, May 3, 2010)

Board members present were Jack Johnson, Ron Sender, Scott Smith, Jeff Roth, Stephan Miller and Ted Packard. Also present were Mick Beck, Joey Glushko and Steven Quinn.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31.

Review of the January and February minutes was tabled until the next meeting. We discussed the November minutes and Stephan will look into whether the October minutes were amended.

Task group reports. Scott reported on the TAC meeting which dealt with the reports of the Mass. Ave./Arlington Center Crossing and Education/Safety Issues joint taskforces. The TAC endorsed most of the content of the reports excluding the shared sidewalk and a few other items. The TAC also reiterated that any viable short term solution should involve little or no construction.

Jeff told us that the TAC did not vote on any of the proposed engineering solutions. He believes that the engineering changes should precede any enforcement. We agreed that the real challenge will be the short term solution. We realized that an aid to disseminating our short term solutions for navigating the Center crossing could be via a new version of the safety brochure. Joey would like to see us make an effort to distribute the new brochure on the Bike Path this summer. We decided to discuss the brochure and its distribution at the Tri-Community Meeting next month. Scott will also try to get this topic on the Selectmen's agenda in the near future.

Bylaws and committee structure. Christopher distributed his new draft of the bylaws. Ron will maintain the documents and incorporate a number of recent changes. We discussed the meaning of the term "quorum." Joey told us that, by custom, a quorum is met if a majority of the committee is present. Jeff thought that a quorum should be any number of committee members we wish. We also discussed whether we should allow the appointment of a board member who does not reside in Arlington but in a nearby town.

Winter Social—final preparations and details. The Winter Social will take place on Thursday March 4 this year. Christopher told us that he sent in the check to reserve the hall but has not yet received a confirmation. Joey will check to see that the reservation has been made. Stephan and Christopher will provide the refreshments.

Bike Lanes on Park Ave. Jeff showed us two memos he wrote about implementing bike lanes on the Rt. 2 westbound service road and Park Ave. Jack suggested a few changes to the wording. We also further discussed the proposal for bike lanes along Park Ave. Ron brought up the idea of putting "Bike Lane" signs at the top of the hill. Joey felt that these topics should also be addressed at the Tri-Community meeting because the service road crosses into Lexington. Ron suggested that we send the service road memo to the Lexington Bicycle Committee.

*We voted to approve the Park Ave. bike lane memo.

ABAC memo concerned with the Brigham's site redevelopment. Jeff expressed his feeling that this is the best time to have input into the bike friendliness of this development. He enumerated the specifics in the memo written he wrote with Mick. Mick told us he felt that we should get our views to the developers as soon as possible. Joey expressed her feeling that the memo should be substantially reworded. She thought the tone should be softened and that the memo should also be sent to the Planning Dept. and Redevelopment Board. We discussed the correct strategy to use in this matter. Christopher brought up the points made last month by Phil Goff about the local traffic and the nearby intersection of the Bicycle Path and Mill St.

Report on the November 2009 accident on Rt. 2. Ted reported that he now has a copy of the accident report. We discussed the circumstances of the accident and what, if any, recommendations we should make to help prevent future problems.

Tri-Community Meeting. Joey has formulated an agenda which will be sent out to us in a few weeks. Christopher suggested several additional topics.

MWRA construction between Pleasant St. and Medford St. We briefly discussed this topic before adjourning.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 pm

*Denotes a vote of the board was taken.

Minutes submitted by Stephan Miller