



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
**730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476**  
**Phone: 781-316-3000**

**webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us**

## Minutes of April 6, 2009

ABAC Meeting Minutes for the April meeting, April 6, 2009.

Board members present were Jack Johnson, Stephan Miller, Ron Sender, Christopher Tonkin, Ted Packard and Scott Smith. Joey Glushko, Ray Jones and Chad Gibson were also present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30p.

\*The minutes from the February meeting were voted on and approved without correction.

Updates on recent events: National Bike Summit (held March 10-12); Boston City Council hearing on regional bike-sharing program (March 30). Jack told us that the spirit in Washington surrounding alternative transportation issues is much improved since the new administration took office. The trend in National bicycle policy is now very favorable. Jack suspects that Massachusetts is spending alternative transportation money on other things as it is ranked 50<sup>th</sup> among states in expenditures. Jack added that there is a new law pending in Congress which would force states to spend this money on what is originally designated to be spent on.

Jack also attended the Boston City Council hearing on regional bicycle sharing. Jack read a proclamation from the council favoring the sharing program. The program would be like a Zipcar plan for bicycles. The local colleges and universities are also looking into bicycle sharing programs.

Comments on proposed ABAC webpage for the Town website, submitted by ABAC member Jeff Roth. Jeff has drafted a landing page on bicycling for the Town website. This site will then link to the ABAC and the Minuteman Bikeway sites. It will give basic information and some contacts. Joey suggested that the contact phone be to some Town department. We spent some time discussing what the page's potential links might be. Chad suggested looking at sites belonging to other towns.

Update and discussion on proposed ABAC T-shirts. Chad showed us a design for an ABAC T-shirt. Rustem Gode of Quad Cycles has agreed to capitalize the project. Rustem might also sell them in his shop. The shirt will have the Quad Cycles logo, the Minuteman Bikeway map and an ABAC logo. Christopher told us that he would prefer a simpler design. We discussed further whether we want an Arlington focus or a bikeway focus. We decided we would like the focus to be on Arlington.

Updates on current projects: forthcoming bicycle-rack installations, Mass. Ave. Corridor, Safe Routes to School pilot. We heard that the Town Manager wants bike racks installed on school property. Joey told us that racks to be installed along the Mass. Ave. Corridor have been ordered.

Scott told us that there was considerable opposition to the Mass. Ave. Corridor project at the last meeting in East Arlington. Chad read us a letter that was left in his mailbox decrying the possible installation of bicycle lanes on Mass. Ave.

There will be a meeting of the Hardy School PTO on the seventh of April to discuss the topic of Safe Routes to School. The principal of the school would like to have PTO approval before proceeding. The plan is to start a pilot project after the spring vacation.

Planning for BIKE-Arlington Tour, scheduled for May 17. Jack gave us a summary of the current state of the tour route. The tour will visit Great Meadows, the Arlington reservoir, and McClellan Park. We would like to finish up at the Jefferson-Cutter House. Doug suggested that we give a short talk about the Mass. Ave. Corridor Project to drum up support for bicycle lanes. We will also have (hopefully) an exhibit about bicycling to school. We further discussed and made a final decision on the route that we will use on the tour.

Brief update / discussion on Arlington Recreation Center redevelopment. Joey briefed us on the current plans to expand the recreation center and the associated parking. She informed us that there are no plans to have a driveway crossing the bike path. Joey thinks that we should send a letter to the Parks and Recreation Commission clearly stating our position on the project. Jack will draft a memo.

ACTION ITEM: Jack will draft a memo the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Open forum We discussed the Green Dog initiative in town.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35p.

\*denotes a vote of the board was taken.

Minutes submitted by Stephan Miller. Minutes changes accepted by Jeff Roth.