

ABAC meeting minutes for June 5, 2006

Board members present were Jack Johnson, Stephan Miller, Ron Sender, and Ted Packard. Parris Kellerman, Joey Glushko, and Victor Antolini also attended.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31.

Introductions and Conversations. Victor introduced himself and explained that he just purchased the Bike Stop. Jack told us about the Hub On Wheels Boston Tours. Urban AdvenTours runs these informational tour for tourists. For more information, see www.urbanadventours.com (Andrew Prescott).

*The minutes from the last meeting were accepted with one correction.

Updates on recent events: Spy Pond trail work, bikeway cleanup, BIKE-Arlington Tour. Spy Pond trail work went on despite a torrential downpour. Joey told us that the trail might be repaved next year.

The bikeway cleanup also went well. Four of us participated (Stephan, Ted, Christopher and Ron). Ron suggested that we coordinate with both Starbuck's and the Boy Scouts next year as the Boy Scouts had a cleanup a few weeks before.

BIKE-Arlington Tour came off like the well-practiced event that it is. Ron characterized it as short but smooth. The riders seemed to be of a higher skill level this year. The talk on the ABC Quick Check was well-received. Stephan suggested that we spend less time on the path and more time on the road next year.

Updates/discussion on Mass. Ave. corridor project. Once again, we discussed the options for the bike path crossing in the Center. We talked about putting in shared travel lanes to prevent riding on the sidewalk. We also revisited the idea of creating bicycle amenities in the Uncle Sam Park. Parris suggested that the islands in the road be eliminated or narrowed to allow bike lanes in one or both directions on Mass. Ave. and Rt. 60. We decided to table this discussion until the next meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Jack will ask Scott to clarify the options before the next meeting.

Update on various bike-parking rack requests in town. The Old Schwamb Mill has requested a rack. Rustem Gode of Quad Cycles wants to donate a rack for the site. We discussed the type of rack that would be appropriate for an historical site. Ron suggested that we ask the folks at the mill to initiate the process. There have also been requests from Fitness First, Gold's Gym, and Starbuck's (Broadway/Center). Joey reminded us that we were going to approach other businesses that have room for a rack.

Update/discussion on advertising encroachments on the bikeway. Gold's Gym has a sandwich board sign which frequently blows over onto the bike path. Joey told us that this kind of sign is illegal in Arlington anyway. The building inspector and police are responsible for enforcement. However, they only enforce when there is a complaint.

Update on the Police Bike Patrol. We discovered the Bike Patrol is back on duty and discussed training them in bike law. The Chief has been contacted about training and enforcing bike laws. MassBike has developed a curriculum on the subject.

Planning for ABAC booth at Arlington Town Day. Date for Town Day is Sat./Sept. 9. Jack told us that the application has been sent into Town Hall. Town Day is early this year, and Jack will be on vacation. Joey suggested that we have an August meeting to plan for the event. Ron suggested we invite a Bike Cop to be at the table.

Review dates for upcoming ABAC meetings. The upcoming dates of ABAC meetings are July 10, September 11, and October 2.

ACTION ITEM: We will all look at the Minuteman Bikeway brochure to determine if updates are needed because reprinting is needed.

Open forum. We further discussed Victor's plans for the Bike Stop business.

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:09

An * indicates that a vote was taken.

Minutes submitted by Stephan Miller.