



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Minutes, Apr. 2005

### Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee

#### Minutes for April 4, 2005

Board members present were Jack Johnson, Stephan Miller, Ron Sender, Scott Smith, Christopher Tonkin, and Ted Packard. Others present were Joey Glushko, Bobby Mac, Lauren Hefferon, Joy Ahern, and Parris Kellerman.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31.

We started the meeting with uplifting stories about bicycling.

\*The March minutes were approved with no amendments.

Feedback on National Bike Summit, Washington D.C., March 16-18. Jack told us that it looks like the federal Transportation Bill was approved in the House.

The Bill includes authorization of multimodal transportation funding. This bill now goes to the Senate.

Jack found the overall event a very positive experience. He was encouraged by the amount of enthusiasm for bicycling in Washington. The Summit included an afternoon bike ride, including 150 Summit participants.

Updates from the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). We discussed the Arlington Center and Massachusetts Ave corridor redesign and the Center bikeway crossing. Town officials and VHB met with MassHighway about the redesign projects. The issues we see in these projects are outlining routes for bicyclists and pedestrians on the Bikeway to navigate the Center crossing. We decided that ABAC will recommend routes for the bikeway crossing in the Center. The Center redesign will bring an opportunity for improved bicycle parking and signage. On Mass Ave east of the fire station in the Center, there's an opportunity to advocate for wider sidewalks to encourage walking and make space for more bicycle parking.

For Mass Ave in the Center and East Arlington, we will have to think about what type of bicycle accommodation to recommend. The consensus was that we don't want discontinuous bike lanes.

We designated a subcommittee to study the center design and bikeway crossing and will compose a letter to the Town outlining our recommendations. The members of the subcommittee will be Scott, Ted, Parris, Jack, Stephan.

Possible cleanup(s) of the Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington this summer.

Stephan told us that several areas on the eastern half of the bikeway is need cleaning up (trash pickup). We discussed doing this on an early Saturday in June. We also need to maintain the Wald memorial. Ron will contact the High School to find out about the Student Volunteer Program. Jack will contact MassBike to coordinate efforts.

**ACTION ITEMS:** Jack will contact MassBike, and Ron will contact the High School.

**BIKE-Arlington Tour**, scheduled for Sunday, May 22. Jack suggested that we use the same route as we used two years ago. Joey reminded us that Spy Pond Park is under construction. She also suggested that we end the ride in the center near Carberry's rather than at Spy Pond. Other suggestions were McClennen Park or Menotomy Rocks Park. Scott suggested bypassing Warren St. this year as there are other parallel streets with less traffic. Lastly, Ted suggested handing out Bike Tour fliers at upcoming Town events.

Update of bicycling to school and bike education program. Lauren Hefferon, Hardy School Parent, talked about the bike ban at the school. Lauren did an after school presentation about safe bicycling. She told us about Cycle Kids, an organization to educate children about bicycling and reduce childhood obesity. Safe Routes to School has designated Arlington a test area, including walking but not bicycling. We discussed the issues that have arisen in town around biking to school. Scott suggested we begin to lobby the selectmen about early

training for bicycle safety. MassBike has offered to help us with this project.

Open forum. Bobby reminded us that he is leading weekly rides starting at Fitness First.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50.

\*Denotes a vote of the board was taken.