



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Minutes, Feb. 2003

Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee Minutes for February 3, 2003

Committee members present were Jack Johnson, Scott Smith, Ron Sender, Stephan Miller. Others present were Joey Glushco, Frank Carter, Doug Greenfeld, Walter Mayne, Joe and Dan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30.

We began with introductions and then discussed the ABAC's Report to the Town which Jack distributed before the meeting. Jack gave an overview and there was some discussion about what level of detail is appropriate.

We voted to accept the minutes without changes.

### Bike Parking Warrant Article.

Jack began a discussion on the strategy that we will use in support of the bike parking article. Joey suggested that we make sure to get support from the business community. She informed us that Beth Ryan is a contact for the Chamber of Commerce and she, Joey, will talk to Beth on behalf of the Article. Joey added that we should prepare a brochure about bike parking for distribution at town meeting. Walter asked if the Zoning Board is in favor of the Article. Joey answered that the Zoning Board has endorsed the Article. Jack asked Walter how we can speak in favor of the article. Walter and Joey answered that a Town Meeting member must make a request for a non member to speak to the Meeting. There were concerns among Town Meeting Members last year that bike parking could obstruct pedestrian or automobile traffic. Jack reminded us that there is new language in the article to address this problem.

Walter suggested that some of the details in the article should be explained in the brochure. Doug suggested we use photos to illustrate proper and improper parking which led us to discuss all the examples of improper bike parking facilities in Town. Joey asked if we could approach Trader Joe's management to write a short memo in support of planning bike parking before construction because they have had problems siting parking after the fact.

### Grant Funding.

Jack asked us to spend part of the meeting brainstorming about what projects that could be funded by CDBG Funding, Bikes Belong or possibly MassBike. The following is a list of what we came up with.

1. Improve Bow St. ramp onto the Bike Path.
2. Support Safe Routes to School.
3. Replace banners on the Bike Path (possibly the Chamber of Commerce would be willing to fund).
4. Alleviate pigeon problem under bridges on Bike Path.
5. Alternative transportation map of Arlington.
6. Bicycle education in the Arlington Schools.
7. Devise a program to get bike for disadvantaged kids.
8. More bike racks for town parks and fields.
9. Off path bike route signs.
10. Build a new path between Bike Path and Lowell St.
11. Build a bridge behind the Assisted living facility in the Heights to provide new access to the Bikeway (possibly funded by Arlington Coal and Lumber).
12. Fix the Path on the north side of the Mystic Valley Parkway from the end of Summer St. along the lower lake.

Ideas for MassBike support of local bicycle advisory committees.

1. Directory of BACs active in the state (membership, meeting times, e-mail addresses and web sites).

2. Clearing house of funding sources.
3. Get together of local BACs.
4. Regional bikeway and area supercommittees.
5. Regional bike tours within Mass.
6. Help promote local BACs.
7. Provide web site hosting for BACs.
8. Provide membership information (for MassBike) to local BACs
9. Tapping into political potential of MassBike membership list.
10. Regional bike race with competitors from local BAC's.
11. Community gardening along Bike Path.
12. Regional committee to lobby for ISTEA money.

#### Safe Routes To School.

Jack asked what we thought the next steps would be in working with the Arlington Schools. He suggested that we set up a subcommittee to get started on this project. When Officer McKenna met with us he suggested that we contact the Superintendent. Joe suggested that we contact Tim Baldwin of MassBike for any information that he may have. What are other communities doing? What has worked in the past? Those interested in serving on the subcommittee were Walter, Ron Christopher. Bobby Mac was volunteered in his absence.

#### Reeds Brook Bike Parking.

The new Reeds Brook Park will have a parking lot with 68 spaces. The proposal includes 4-8 bike parking spots near the main entrance. There is a second entrance on Wright St. which may also be an appropriate spot. Joey would like a recommendation from ABAC for location and type and number of racks to be added to this development. Walter suggested we recommend locating racks closer to the soccer fields where they can be seen. This would be in addition to a few racks located near the parking lot.

We voted to authorize Jack to make our recommendations in the form of a letter. The motion passed without dissent. After the vote, Ron asked if some of the racks could be covered.

#### Updates.

Mass. Ave. Corridor. Scott recapped the progress that has been made over the last year. He explained the one through lane in either direction proposal. This proposal has gotten mixed reviews from the immediate neighborhood. ABAC will have to make a decision about our recommendations for bicycle accommodation along this stretch. The recommendation should be formulated some time within the next few months.

Bikeway Maintenance. We have positions on the missing bollards and the grading of the edges of the Bike Path. Joey suggested that we wait until the new Director of the DPW starts work.

MDC Alewife Master Plan. The MDC might be dismantled so we don't know what the future of this plan will be. In any case, we need to work on the road signage in Alewife area. We will make a trip in the spring to finalize the signs for the present connector route.

Tour of Arlington. There are no more conflicts for the third Sunday in May

Bicycle Rodeo. We don't know when or if it has been planned for this year.

Rails to Trails Conference. The Rails to Trails tour of the Bikeway will take place at the end of June.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30.