

# Pedestrian Committee Meeting 5/28/15

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## DRAFT NOTES

### I. Review of Last Minutes

- Approved...
- Attending: Jodie Cohen-Tanugi, Sam Stern, Magda McCormick, Bill Dwyer (DPW), Joseph Rose, Sean Pierce, Helen Rose, Debby Galef, Cara Seiderman, Victoria Farr

### II. Events

- **Discussion of June event – walking tour of North Point...**
  - Have examples of the brochure...
  - Talked about the stops and points of interest, make sure to get the orange line into the itinerary
  - Challenge is the doc is in illustrator, and Liza who knows the software is away, and the transportation intern left...
  - The brochure still needs a bit of work...
  - Helen has illustrator and offered to take it on...Make sure we get pictures in there...And get the correct times...
  - **To-Do:** Victoria to forward email from Liza w/ illustrator to Helen,
  - **To-Do:** Debby to forward her edits/notes to update text/content
    - Blurbs outstanding: EF (pull from about us section), Skate park one (edited), Connector bridge (Victoria to take a pic), Northpoint Commons
  - Magda reached out to Renata, Victoria reached out to HYM, EF & DCR logos...
  - Cara to send City of Cambridge Seal to Helen for brochure...
  - Someone say something! At least at the beginning...That The Pedestrian Committee exists at least
    - Cara to bring megaphone...
  - Ponchos as Swag for people...
  - **To-Do:** Day of Contact info for speakers in case weather cancels (Victoria to collect)
- **PARK(ing) Day – Where and when might we hold one?**
  - September 18 – third Friday in September...
  - Bike committee did for two years...
  - We could give out maps maybe
  - Or collect feedback about issues with their sidewalks/walking routes in their areas...(Green Dots / Red dots)
  - Put in for Central Square...
  - Sam volunteered, Debby volunteered...Sean volunteered
  - We need some decorations, fake grass? Outdoor furniture. City will provide a table and a barrier...

- Restaurant could give away food, but not sell it...Could give us some tables/chairs...
  - Write up a proposal for Jennifer Lawrence – Debby going to check w/ Jen when the deadline is...
- May 29 Walk/Ride Day – bagging it, too late

### III. Updates

- DPW updates (Bill)
  - Huron A almost done...
  - See attached notes for more details...
  - Benches with solar-powered chargers coming in soon
  - Public toilet in July in Harvard
  - Main street connection to 3<sup>rd</sup> street? Not sure, that might be one for an update...
- Infrastructure – nothing major to talk about
- Development – course of the next year, a few big projects coming up:
  - 1) PUD plan proposal for MIT for area South of Main Street
  - 2) Kendall Square area at CRA property, buildings between Broadway, Binney & Galileo
- East Cambridge Kendall Square Open Space (ECKOS) –
  - Richard Burke & associates w/ subs...
  - Creating a framework for design of open space in East Cambridge, connections is a big topic...Creating a Cambridge emerald necklace?
- Watertown Branch Path – there is funding to do the design
  - DCR owns some of it, Cambridge owns in Fresh pond area, privately owned (railroad) over by New Street area...
    - Challenge to acquire the rights to the private part, b/c of its development right transfer potential...
    - Encourage committee members to go...We need to support it...There is some opposition although there is also long-term support
  - Path width issues...hoping for 12-14 feet...(DCR typically goes for 10 feet)
  - How do we express support for this if we can't go?
  - Debby to go and speak for Pedestrian Committee – we support it, we support wider path, 14 feet is recommended guidelines for urban areas, good lighting, etc.
- Planning a pedestrian bridge between Iggy's and the Cambridge Park Drive...Design funded by development, but not yet money for construction...

### IV. Committee Work plan – initial brainstorming

- What goals for the coming year? Stuff that comes up all of the time, ongoing projects...
- Debby – channeling Elizabeth, Sub-committee for DCR, Helen volunteered to be on it as well...
  - To deal with issues/challenges related to them...
- Debby – Social media presence – Twitter/Facebook?
  - Cambridge Pedestrian Committee Facebook page?
  - Jen Lawrence puts stuff out on Twitter/Facebook

- Cara: Gathering interesting walks for people to go on...
  - Ben – former committee member – had compiled a list of walks
  - We would need to go vet that the start/stop is still legit, and the points of interest still exist...
- Sean: Reinvigorate the list of pedestrian issues/hotspots...
  - Needs to happen – Sean/Sam to create the shared document
- Cara: Annual walk committee
- Magda: Stuff we already have on our plate
  - Safe routes for schools we should be involved w/, also the Sean list, the annual walk...(Magda & Justin)
- Cara: Development reviews, or attending community meetings..
- Created a separate project task list (DCR, annual walk, list of issues committee, etc.), make sure that everyone is connected to at least one of the initiatives.
- Sean: More interactions w/ the other committees (Transit, Cycling, Accessibility)
  - Joint meeting w/ the transit committee
  - Possibilities for joint projects?
- Cara: Over the next year, a process to re-envision North Mass Ave.
  - What’s driving this? Long-standing desire to make improvements, but no \$\$\$ to do construction right now...

## V. Announcements and Other

- June agenda – Committee officer elections – Chair, Vice Chair & Secretary
  - Could have Co-Vice chairs (or co-chairs...)
  - Need to make sure we have enough people put up for the open positions...
  - Debby is the chair (and is happy to continue)
  - Victoria & Magda → Co-vice-chairs
  - Sam → Secretary...
  - Magda encourages everyone to speak up if they have any nominations or input...
- July/August walks – West Cambridge walk – railroad walk, quadrangle walk...(alewife area, Freshpond area)
  - Davis/Porter → Mass Ave Walk
  - Sequence the two walks based on who is interested in which and in town...