

STEP/Friends of the Community Path Meeting Notes ~ April 3, 2017

Who & Where

- We met in the SCATV conference room on April 3 from 7 to 9 PM
- Attending: Karen Molloy, Ellin Reisner, Rachel Fichtenbaum, Kristi Chase, Jim McGinnis, Lynn Weissman, Wig Zamore, Steve Mulder, Gabriel Distler, Alan Moore, Max Morrow, Rachel Alfie, Jonah Petrie, and Andrea Yakovakis

Charlestown Meeting

- Discussion of Rutherford Ave on April 12
- Contact Ellin if you are interested in attending

Green Line Extension

- List of 6 optional add-ons released, with priorities
 1. Platform canopies
 2. Additional elevators at select stations
 3. Public art
 4. Additional community connection to the community path located on Chester Street in Somerville
 5. Extension of the community path between East Somerville and Lechmere Stations
 6. Enhanced Vehicle Maintenance Facility in Somerville
- Very little public process has occurred or is planned
- April 10 – next joint meeting of the MassDOT & Fiscal Management and Control Boards

Community Path Extension

- Friends met with Rafael Mares and Secretary Pollack
 - Secretary suggested that City offer to pay for the design and then Path can get funded through bike/ped plan
 - Next steps
 - Alan to reach out to Transportation for Massachusetts
 - Lynn to reach out to Barr Foundation
 - Consider applying for CPA money in the future

Artbeat

- Theme is voice
- Karen & Rachel F. working on a poster and brochure with info on “make your voice heard” – strategies & talking points for advocating
- Date will be Saturday, July 15

Outreach and Social Media

- Karen and Rachel F. will reach out to the STEP listserv to see if anyone is interested in getting involved to help STEP do more on social media

Miscellany

- Logan Noise Study results may be taken offline
 - Jonah checked and they are archived on the Internet
 - Steve will look into posting these on the STEP website
- Transit Matters has been thinking about bus routes in Somerville when the GLX opens.
 - STEP would like to invite them to present at a STEP meeting sometime this summer
 - Anson Stewart, MIT PhD student, has a travel time model that might be relevant to this conversation

- South Coast Rail is looking at a route through Middleborough that would switch line from electric to Diesel, which is more harmful to the environment than the original proposal. Wig will send out information about the comment period.
- Rachel F. got a cardboard, wearable model GLX off Craigslist
 - This could be good for Artbeat
 - We can use it for future actions
- The VNA had asked us to contribute \$200 for each meeting for use of their space, but retracted this when we reminded them we are a nonprofit. However, we would like to make a yearly contribution to thank them for their space
 - Ellin and Gabe will work on this

Next Meeting

- Monday, May 15, 7-9 PM at the VNA (3rd floor community room)
- Andrea will take notes because Rachel F. is not available
- It is the annual meeting where we will vote for officers