MONTHLY MEETING
August 12, 2014
Minutes by Jonah Petri

Attendees: Alan Moore, Jonah Petri, Lynn Weissman, Jon Sanzone, Rachel Burkhardt, Ann Peralta

1. Next Meeting: September 8th, 7-9 PM at the VNA, 259 Lowell St., Somerville
   • Minutes from last 5 meetings to be posted by Alan
   • Last posted minutes March 2014.
   • Lynn to email Jonah if April or May needed.
   • Alan to email Lynn June & July

2. Saturday, 7/19, ArtBeat
   • Successful: poster delivered to Sec Davey
   • Informed people about the party, GLX update
   • Photos on FCP facebook page https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.744638272259648.1073741837.129724153751066&type=3
   • Follow-up Email list, donations deposit  Jonah will add emails to listserv

3. CPX Celebration “Party on the Path” Saturday 9/6. 2:00-6:00pm. Raindate: Sat Sep 20. Cedar-Willow St. section/Lexington Park
   • City’s first Zero-waste party. 6/30: Lynn Met w/Jackie Rosetti.  City can supply tables/chairs, tents, PA system, set-up, clean-up, games, police detail, take care of permitting, maybe cover some other costs, press releases, etc.  7/12 BOA Voted “yes” on permit.
   • 8/7 Lynn to talk with Jackie again.
   • Lynn to make Save The Date announcement after talking with Jackie
   • Food Donations
     o Lynn created an inline Script, spreadsheet to track amounts, food track vs delivery
     o Lynn to send script to Ann Peralta
     o Ann to ask Shaws about donating 10 watermelons
     o So far – thanks, Max - we have donations for 250 people of Iggie's bread/rolls/bagels
     o Max waiting to hear back from Whole Foods about bananas, apples, baby carrots, cheese, butter, dips, and maybe some cake/cookies, for 250 people
     o We also plan to try to get 20-30 cheese pizzas. Lynn to ask Mike
     o We will likely need to pick all of this up that morning, somehow.
Thank you letters/tax-deductible – Max?

- Jonah volunteers to pick up food to help if the City cannot

- We should plan to table and bring maps, posters, etc. and other informational materials (on Grand Jct Path, CPX part of the MassCentral RT, etc.) to answer

- Lynn to ask for a supporter to be a photographer

- Lynn to invite politicians/stakeholders

4. Cedar St. to Lowell St. CPX

- Warwick Street ramp & stair construction are in progress. Lynn wonders if the ramp will be ADA compliant

- MassDOT is supposed to construct the Warwick Street curb cut, although Maxwells’ Green had committed to doing it in original plan and in covenant.

- Construction contract extended (from May to September and again) to November

- Lynn will possibly write a follow-up letter to MPO, requesting no further contract extensions.

- Community Garden possibilities? Wait until the Cedar/Lowell build is complete, then see what the possibilities are. Alan to look at how much detail needs to be in an application for adding new community gardens and 2 other ideas

5. Lowell St. Bridge Traffic/Pedestrian Safety Community meeting- debriefing

- Painted chicanes seem to not be working. Cars are driving over the lines, essentially ignoring them.

- November: City mtg to follow-up. We will request that MassDOT/GLX Team rep join us at this meeting

6. GLX/CPX

- Tues 7/10, GLX Public Hearing: Equivalent Facilitation (mobility and accessibility) Letter requesting scope expansion or Lowell Street T-station to CPX connection: ADA, proximity, etc.: Current GLX Lowell Street T Station work scope doesn’t include CPX ramp on Lowell Street sidewalk. Lowell St across to the Lowell St Station. ADA issues and safety risks here.

  - Since this is a MassDOT-owned bridge, it must be a MassDOT decision, not the City.

  - The issue is the ADA-accessibility of the access to the station, which is the point we made in our recent letter

  - Lynn to contact politicians to ask for MassDOT/GLX team to be present in the Lowell St traffic study meeting in November. We can raise the issue there.

  - 1st GLX stop coming from the west via CPX, magnifying the risks from this crossing due to high ped/bike traffic.
7. Gilman Street Bridge/McGrath
The issue is the lack of coordination between the design of the Gilman St bridge repair (actually the resulting road cross-section) and the McGrath overpass & Medford St
- There’s a joint letter in the works: Somerville Bike Committee, LivStreets, STEP, etc.
- Thurs 7/17, MassDOT McGrath Grounding Study Updates

8. CPX/GJP spur
- Reframe the GJP/CPX connector to the back side of Twin Cities Plaza / Medford St as a CPX spur to be rolled into the GLX scope.
- Have the GLX do a feasibility study, then roll the design & construction of the spur into the GLX.
- We suggested this to Bev Scott at the mitigation meeting
- Letter or meeting needed: Somerville delegation and Sal Dominico so they understand the spur idea as part of GLX

9. GLX Team FCP Draft letter on recommended design changes – no reply yet. Alan to contact David Farmer to get a meeting with GLX team

10. Next meeting with City TBD – Alan, Mark N – dates?
- Some upcoming Wednesday. Lynn to create doodle poll for meeting with City.

11. Latest (4/30/2014) Davis Square plans/Path: 'Wayfinding and Multi-use Path' includes a 1/5 mile(!) "Walk-your-bike" section from Grove St/ (and MBTA busway) all the way to Buena Vista Rd (Path at Seven Hills Park):
- Busway sidewalk was made wide to accommodate cyclists and pedestrians
- Grove Street access not included?

12. CPA – $4.5M available.
- Lynn/Alan to rejuvenate old letter (never sent) on recommendation
- Applications for FY2015 due 9/26 www.somervillema.gov/CPA. Possibilities are the Somerville Junction Park improvements, including the reworking of the parking area by Central Street
  - repaving current path
  - Grading at Willow Street and approaching Trolley Square to re-route water pools
  - Paving all along existing CPX.
  - landscape improvements for current path
  - RR artifacts (as CPA historic preservation)
13. Community Path counting
   - Before/after for CPX. Sensor counters (need volunteer to follow-up with MassDOT electronic counter contact - Alan to explain). MAPC/CTPS assistance?
   - **Lynn to follow up with Eric (?) from MAPC about SCP counting**
   - **John to check with Tom Evans about who the 2 people at MassDOT are who know about the new bike/ped counting tech**

14. MassDOT transportation project criteria comments **Alan to find deadline & write a letter**

15. 10/30 MassDOT Moving Together Conference
   - FCP invited to present for FCP/CPX. Lynn will participate in panel on GLX multi-modal components.
   - Register for 1 free (presenter), 1 paid entry, and we will see about more later.
   - **Lynn to follow up with Max about whether conference registration had been done already.**

16. 7/16 - “Measuring Up: More Bang for the Buck in Transportation Project Selection”
    The 2013 Transportation Finance Act - project selection criteria forum co-sponsored by Transportation for MA and Transportation for America. (Alan summarized)