



Friends of the Community Path www.pathfriends.org/scp/

Thursday, May 12, 2011
Minutes by Jonah Petri

**Next meeting: June 9, 7:00 PM (2nd Thursday each month)
VNA - 1st Floor, 259 Lowell St, Somerville.**

I. LRTP (Lynn)

- Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is the plan for all major transportation projects for the next 30 years. We didn't know until recently that the Community Path project needed to be in it to get funding. The TIPs (Transportation Improvement Programs) are the budget plans in 4-year increment. If a project is large (> \$10 million) and not in the LRTP, it cannot get into the TIP. Since we need federal money to get sufficient funds to cover the Community Path construction, we need to get on the LRTP's project list.
- We will make that request this week, before the May 19 meeting. So will the City of Somerville, but only to Inner Belt.
- It doesn't matter so much what category (Transit or Highway) the Path is under on the LRTP; it just has to be on there somewhere.
- We will do targeted lobbying to get specific regional groups to speak out at the May 19th MPO meeting or write letters. Lynn will attend that meeting.

II. North Point Special Permit (Lynn)

North Point has a special permit for the whole development, part of which requires them to build the path to the Old Red Bridge site. Is the special permit still binding? Kate Fichter doesn't think so, but some folks do. Alan and Lynn wrote to Cambridge City to confirm. UPDATE: the answer was received that it is still binding but could be changed by the City if the developer request and eventually (we don't know when) the permit will expire.

III. Web (Lynn)

- Listserv has been down intermittently. We need someone to transfer our listserv to another platform.
- We need someone to update our website

IV. Powerpoint Presentation (Alan)

- The presentation is a general presentation about the path. We could use it to pitch the path to North Point developers or Brickbottom residents.
- Alan showed the current state of the presentation.
- Feedback:
 - Lynn: Less text is good. Use the outline she sent. It takes too long to get to the meat of the presentation. Target this towards people we need to persuade, not people who already are on our side. First thing we want to see is the mission.
 - Andy: There might be room for a second presentation which provides all of the background info to someone wanting to get the current status of the path.
 - Jonah: Target the Brickbottom community, which is the primary audience in the immediate future for this presentation. They're the folks who need convincing.
 - Andy: Address the issues particular to BB. Find current similar abutters, get quotes to address the issues.
 - Jonah: Anticipate being in a room that's too big with a screen which is too small. Make the important graphics full screen, and ditch the other ones.
- Lynn will draft another version. Andy or Frank will take text from Lynn and the PPT from Alan and reformulate a draft after that.

V. Tabling (Lynn)

- Lynn is not convinced that it should be top priority for us right now, and extensive and labor-intensive tabling is outside our capacity. We will table at ArtBeat July 16th, but we will opt out of other tabling opportunities at this point.
- Alan suggested that Lynn could send out an email mentioning the tabling opportunity to gauge interest from the core group before declining.

VI. ArtBeat Table (Lynn)

- There was discussion about the particulars of our ArtBeat application. Frank will send questions to Lynn in an email.
- Lynn: should we sell water bottles?
- Frank will price out steel water bottles with FCP logo on the side. Lynn will send the logo graphic to Frank.
- Frank will look into stickers as well.

VII. McGrath Article (Jonah)

- Jonah is writing an article about the MassDOT McGrath de-elevation study, and is trying to get info from the City regarding its role and intentions for the study.

VIII. 5/24 Rte 28 Visioning (Lynn)

- Invitation only from Livable Streets, but it got posted to the STEP public list, and so it is unknown who will end up attending. Alan and Jonah plan to attend.

IX. Inner Belt Study (Alan)

- Alan will attend. Study is through City, and will create a vision for the future of Inner Belt.

X. 5/3 GLX Meet & Greet Debrief

- Andy wonders when they will post the materials from their presentations. Alan wonders which company will be responsible for SCP design.

Update: http://www.somervillestep.org/2011/05/materials_from_1.html

- Lynn talked briefly with Beverley Johnson, who is the community liaison for the GLX project. Alan proposed a one-on-one meeting with her to make sure she gets to know the FCP. Is there a meeting where we could chat with her afterwards?
- Alan will send Beverly Johnson an email to propose meeting after the DWG meeting on 5/26.

XI. Outreach

A. Bike Tour (Lynn)

- Tour last Saturday was rained out, and Sunday only had 4, though it was Mother's Day. Lynn would like to do another one. She proposed some weekend in June before people depart for the holidays. Lynn will poll the FCP core list.

XII. Capuano Meeting Debrief (Alan)

- Last Tuesday Morning meeting, 2 issues were discussed: SCP, and Complete Street issues, mostly pro bike/ped.
- Capuano was very supportive of the SCP. He is aware of the LRTP issues and is supportive of SCP being in the LRTP. He believes that urban paths are still worthwhile even in the current funding environment.

XIII. Adjournment

Attendees: Lynn Weissman, Alan Moore, Jonah Petri, Andy Hinterman, Frank Moore.