

BCGP Philadelphia Cycling Committee

May 20, 2008

Attendance: John Boyle, Claudia Crane, Kyle Gradinger, Russell Meddin (Chair), Sarah Clark Stuart, Dennis Winters (Secretary)

Russell Meddin called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m.

South Street Bridge Detour Routes – Sarah Clark Stuart

Stuart presented a series of photos and graphics on the proposed bike detour when the South Street Bridge is closed. The favored route is 32nd Street from South Street to Chestnut Street on the edge of the Penn campus behind Franklin Field. At Chestnut there is a wide walkway through the Drexel Campuses over to Market close to 30th Street.

A buffered lane on Chestnut from 32nd to midway between 30th Street and Schuylkill Avenue where a “blue lane” would take bikes to the left of the right turn lane at Schuylkill Avenue. There was concern about vehicles making right turns in front of cyclists at 23rd Street.

Stuart said the Coalition would prepare a memo to the City with its suggestions for the bicycle detour and necessary way-finding signage so that people can find the route.

Ride of Silence: Tomorrow, May 21st, 6:45 p.m. at the Art Museum. Boyle said board members might have to help with collecting signatures on the waiver.

Pro Cycling Tour Race: June 8th, volunteers are needed at the Coalition table. It is uncertain at this time where the Coalition will be located.

Bike Freedom Valley: June 15th, volunteers are needed. Contact Jill Minick to volunteer.

Bike Parking

- **On Street** – the parking will be on-street until the 30th. They are located at The Bridge Theatre at 40th & Walnut; and at Two Liberty Place, 16th & Chestnut. Cyclists should park their bike there as much as possible.
- **Off Street** – Stuart said the Parking Authority was receptive to the idea of adding bike parking in their parking lots. She also said that the Coalition’s report on bike parking availability would be sent to PA officials.

Boyle said that there was also an attempt to amend the zoning code to require bike facilities in new and renovated buildings. There was a suggestion to have Ben Ginsberg at Center City District write a letter to all Center City building owners requesting the installation of bike racks.

Meddin complimented Stuart on the report she prepared entitled “Bicycle Parking: Key to a Green Philadelphia.” The report recommends the City purchase 7,500 more bike “U” bike racks.

Bike Week Wrap Up

- Pat Cunnane won the commuter bike race on a Fuji. It got great TV coverage and a digital clock was donated for the event. The weather was great.
- Film Festival – about 25 people were in attendance. Even though the turnout was low the event was said to be a lot of fun.
- Bike to the Ballpark – also a nice event that was well attended.
- Ride to Work with the Mayor – rainy weather, but very well attended. Mayor Nutter was interviewed by several media outlets and seemed to enjoy the event...in spite of the weather!

Bike Share Update – Russell Meddin

Meddin reported on the hearing before City Council. He said that Philadelphia was now mentioned as one of the American cities considering bicycle sharing.

Old and New Business:

South Street Bridge update – Grading reported that the meeting with the Mayor was well attended and included Vince Fumo. He said that the Street Department looked really bad in front of the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor for Transportation. There were more meetings with the Streets Department planned. Meddin thanked Grading for his report.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.