PMAC Monthly Meeting

Record of Meeting: March 2, 2016

Location: One Schroeder Place (Boston Police Headquarters)

Attendees:

Public Safety:

BPD E-13: P.O. George Kayes, P.O. William Jones

BPD B-2 (Roxbury): n/a

BPD D-4 (South End): P.O. Javier Pagan

Northeastern University Police: Sgt John Farrell

MBTA Police: Sgt James Kerns

State Police: n/a

PMAC Members / Other:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Jeffrey Ferris | Kate Ziegler | Franco Campanello |
| Jennifer Leonard | David Wean | Nina Robinson |
| Jack Romano | Holly Richardson, DCR | Natalie Kaufman (Liz Malia’s office) |

**Public Safety Discussion Highlights:**

E-13,

* The maps which were provided showed incidents and also calls (new feature). The maps did not extend below New Minton Street, but there was nothing of note south of there.
* Crime in Jamaica Plain is up, though no specific incidents in the Corridor
* May be trying new approaches to combat bike theft

NUPD

* Bike patrols are concentrated from Mass Ave to the Carter Park, sometime extending south to Marbury Terrace (where they have a warehouse) and sometimes north to Wellington Street.
* Northeastern is involved in the Safe Columbus Ave initiative, which includes renewing the green paint in the bike lanes. Some concern about trucks crossing the path in the construction area.
* They try to remind students congregating around the International Village and Ruggles Station to be aware that the path runs through this area. Some discussion of NU painting some sort of markings to indicate this to both students and path users.

D-4

* Car breaks and burglaries near the park, but nothing on the Corridor.

MBTA

* No significant crime on the corridor of interest
* Deploying a new system-wide patrol plan in the next few weeks, with increase in the number of police riding the trains.
* The bike unit will now be deployed from Roxbury Crossing and there will be a manned substation there.

General Discussion

* Discussed needle handling – these can be reported through the city’s 311 app or by calling 311. Most cruisers have sharps containers. Screw-top soda bottles are sometimes a good way to transport them. That being said, the police don’t advocate the public picking these up.

**PMAC General Meeting**

SW Corridor Conservancy report – reported by Franco

* Complimented DCR on superb snow removal this year
* The park suffered a lot of damage this year – some fencing, granite blocks, unpermitted construction at Northampton St. (Holly reports that this particular issue has been turned over to DCR’s Accident Recovery folks.)
* The Conservancy applied for an Urban Forest grant, but was denied because the park is State property. As an alternative, looking for some trees from the State.

Water

* With Pat from DCR, Franco met with an irrigation consultant to discuss upgrades to the water system. Holly commented that the Section 1 design is what was asked for (though it did not include an evaluation of the water main itself), and the goal for Sections 2 and 3 is to have every area in the park reachable with a 75 foot hose. She is also working to be sure this is true also in the new section created as part of the Casey project. Also, looking for isolation valves for each individual garden, dog park, etc.
* Holly pointed out that water sourcing is critical to the future of the park. Asking to have the water turned on earlier this year.
* Durham Street residents are seeking a fountain and some fencing. This would be done through a park partnership. Holly points out that if the design is done, the funding often follows.

Dog Park – Nina Robinson

* A group of dog owners living in and around Jamaica Plain is interested in exploring dog park options within the SWCP. There is currently an unofficial park on city property a few blocks away from the park.
* Holly will put her in touch with the people involved with the existing South End dog park.
* Ideas discussed – the slope in the section south of Stony Brook station (cardboard slide during Wake Up the Earth), the path leading to Amory St., along Oakdale Terrace, the urban wilderness (on the east side of the tracks, above Forest Hills, though there may already be plans for that space), the street hockey rink near Boynton St.

By-laws discussion

* The draft that was presented was begun with a 1993 draft we had. This was modernized and pared down, but still reflects the spirit of the original.
* The attendees gave feedback on definition of members (being broadened), quorums and committees.
* A lot of work has gone into this. The comments from this meeting will be incorporated into a new draft with the intent of approval at the May meeting.