

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting February 9, 2011

Newman School Conference Room, Needham, MA 02492

MINUTES- Draft

IN ATTENDANCE

Thomas Stokes, Lt. John Kraemer, Tony DelGaizo, Robert Wilson, Richard Merson, Glen Schneider, Donna Mullin

Guests:

Liz Sutcliffe, Jacie Feinberg, Barbara Hodge, Jon Hodge, Thomas Ryder, Carol Hartigan, Jeff MacMaver

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 7:05 PM

I. PARKING ON HIGH ROCK AT INTERSECTION WITH CENTRAL

Ms. Sutcliffe discussed concerns over increased parking on High Rock near intersection with Central while Cusick field is being used for baseball games and practice. She expressed frustration that parents think it is closer than parking at Newman and walking to field on the designated path. Discussion and potential remedies were discussed while acknowledging the upcoming construction project at Newman that will temporarily alter parking options in the short run. **Committee passed motion** to: 1) Alert Needham Park and Recreation of the growing problem with the hope that they communicate with leagues and coaches who will in turn, ask parents to park at Newman; 2) Review existing signage at the field to determine if clear and visible; 3) Speak to representatives of pending construction to fully understand impact on parking; 4) Request that Ms. Sutcliffe petition her neighbors to determine the exact level of support for possible parking restrictions on one or both sides of High Rock.

II. SPEED AND PARKING ON MELLEN STREET

This concern had been raised previously but no one was present to represent the case. Lt. Kraemer noted that there has been increased parking enforcement on the street in recent weeks to address part of the concern. He also pointed out that the speed trailer cannot be used until later in the year when the weather is better. The Committee passed a motion to table this case for one more month to provide full opportunity for the filers to return for a follow-up discussion.

III. CROSSING OPTIONS ON 4TH AVENUE

Ms. Feinberg is the director of the neighborhood pre-school and discussed her concerns about safe options to cross 4th Avenue. Issue has arisen as pre-school teachers look for the best way to take groups of children to either Charles River or (less frequently) Cutler Park. While most convenient place to cross is closer to the intersection of 2nd and 4th Ave, the Committee pointed out that a crosswalk would not be possible here since it is not an intersection where cars are stopped but just a change in street names. As such the only viable option is to cross 4th Avenue is at the intersection with Kendrick. The **Committee passed a motion** to put a crosswalk across 4th Avenue at the intersection with Kendrick St. The Committee was aware that the issue had been

preliminarily raised late last year and was going to review its earlier recommendation to ensure consistency.

IV. INTERSECTION OF HIGHLAND AVENUE AND WEST STREET

While Mr. Chin was not present, he did submit follow-up correspondence summarizing his recent contacts with two Highland Avenue businesses as well as the Needham Business Association. The correspondence summarized reactions to his proposal to eliminate three parking spaces on Highland Avenue to improve traffic flow. Ultimately, there was no consensus on his proposal and no further action appears warranted. The **Committee passed a motion** to formally close this case.

V. INTERSECTION OF BRADFORD AND GLENWOOD ROAD/POLLARD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr. Hodge and neighbors presented their concerns about speed and road conditions on Glenwood Avenue. Issues were discussed as they presently exist as well as in the context of upgrades at Pollard and the impact of pending construction. Before discussing any possible next steps, the Committee sought to clarify how this issue did or did not overlap with the parking study being undertaken by the **Permanent Public** Building Committee. Ultimately, the **Committee passed motions** to; 1) Review all pavement markings and repaint as needed to ensure visibility; 2) Conduct a speed study to determine the potential need for traffic calming devices; **and** 3) Conduct a traffic study to determine if a stop sign is needed heading southbound on Glenwood.

VI. OLD/OTHER BUSINESS

- The Committee reviewed and approved Lt. Kraemer's updated list of residents approved for overnight parking permits.
- The Committee reviewed a letter from Mr. Goldberg noting that his neighbors did not object to "no parking" signs on Carol Road near its intersection with Route 135. Based on this letter the **Committee passed a motion** to install signs in the first 150 feet of Carol Road that read "No Parking Monday - Friday 7:00 AM-5:00 PM".
- The minutes from the December 8, 2010 meeting were approved.
- Mr. Merson circulated copies of the 2/5/2011 Needham "Snow and Ice Report Thru Event 11 and Event 12".
- The next meeting was confirmed to be March 9, 2011.
- The meeting as adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Minutes compiled and summarized by Glen Schneider

