

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of March 13, 2013 Meeting
Public Services Administration Building
Needham, MA
DRAFT

IN ATTENDANCE

TMAC members: Jeffrey MacMann, Thomas Stokes, Lt. John Kraemer, Richard Merson, Robert Meltzer.

Guests: Katherine Fishbone, Mary Helen McCollister, Ilene Effenson, Carol McKee, John Negoshian.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 7:01 PM by Mr. MacMann.

I. Speed, Signage on Pleasant Street between Howland Street & Dedham Avenue

Ms. Fishbone followed up on the November 2012 meeting by presenting a petition signed by the majority of her neighbors to have “children at play” or emotionally intelligent signs placed at three locations on Pleasant Street: one near the intersection of Pleasant and Howland Streets; one at 46 Pleasant Street; and, one on the left-hand side of the road near the Pleasant Street and Dedham Avenue intersection. The petition stated the signs would be mounted on utility poles, but the Committee explained that they must be mounted on free-standing poles that could be placed in close proximity to the requested utility poles. The Committee will check with Tony Del Gaizo to ensure the third sign may be mounted on the left-hand side of the road. Ms. Fishbone agreed to meet with Eric Lanagan in the Highway Department to see what signs are available, and then consult with her neighbors again to gather a consensus on signage and the use of free-standing poles.

II. Speed on Mount Vernon Avenue

Ms. McCollister presented her concern about increased levels of speeding on Mount Vernon Avenue, with particular concern due to the large number of children in the area. She declared traffic is bad in both directions, with a large volume of traffic rolling through the stop signs at the end of the road, even with a presently mounted sign indicating “Caution: Children.” As Ms. McCollister acknowledged that many of the vehicles probably originate in the neighborhood, the Committee recommended she engage in an informational campaign in the neighborhood to indicate the concerns; another recommended option is to contact the PTC at the local school to place a note regarding the concerns in an upcoming newsletter. The Committee recommended Ms. McCollister deploy the little green men, and the Committee will refer the traffic violation allegations to patrol officers so they may create a deterrent police presence.

III. Speed on Evelyn Road Follow-Up

Ms. Effenson and Ms. McKee returned after the February 2013 meeting with e-mails of support from their neighbors. The petitioners requested: a “blind curve ahead” sign at the bend in the road near 87 Evelyn Road; and, a “slow” sign on the straightaway near the intersection of Evelyn and Yale Roads. The petitioners agreed to cross-reference the support e-mails with their actual

addresses and forward this information to Bob Wilson via e-mail. The petitioners also expressed concern with traffic at the Bower Street and Evelyn Road intersection, and would like a stop sign on the Bower Street side of that intersection. **The Committee passed a motion** to conduct a traffic study at the intersection of Bower Street and Evelyn Road for the purpose of installing a stop sign on Bower Street.

IV. Signage on South Street

John Negoshian appeared on behalf of his wife Deborah. They have noticed an increase in vehicle accidents with deer on South Street due to an increase in deer activity, and requested signage be placed on South Street indicating the presence of deer. **The Committee passed a motion** for the Department of Public Works to install two deer signs, one on South Street in between Charles River Street and Crestview Road, and one on South Street in between Chestnut Street and Stonecrest Drive.

V. Other Business

- Richard Merson briefed the Committee on the new Downtown Streetscape Committee recently selected and appointed by the Board of Selectmen. This new committee will be responsible for the redevelopment and treatment of the Needham Center public space.
- **The Committee passed a motion** to approve an all-night parking permit application for one vehicle at 102 Edwardel Road.
- **The Committee passed a motion** to approve the minutes from the February 2013 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Minutes compiled and summarized by Robert Meltzer.