



CITY OF DOVER

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: FINANCE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM,
(TOP FLOOR, CITY HALL)
Meeting Date: **Monday, March 30, 2009**
Meeting Time: **7:00 pm (Regular Meeting)**

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Councilor Weston at 7:00 PM.

Member(s) present: Councilor Weston (Chair), Ed Wentworth (Vice Chair), Marn Speidel (Police), Bruce Woodruff (Planning), Ben Clark (Community Services), John Scruton

Member(s) absent: Dennis Munson (Secretary), Peter Schmidt

Also present: Cynthia Copeland, Myranda McGowan, and Danny Camara of the Strafford Regional Planning Commission; Dan Barufaldi, City of Dover Economic Development Director

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review/Approval of February 23, 2009 meeting minutes

No amendments suggested. Motion to approve by Wentworth, seconded by Clark. Motion passed 6-0.

B. Crosswalk policy/assessment update from City staff

Woodruff reviewed TAC minutes from June 4, 2007 regarding the crosswalk policy and standards revisions. Reviewed TAC minutes from July 9, 2007. Crosswalk police public comment set for early August 2007 but did not actually happen. Woodruff handed out draft revisions from June 5, 2007.

Weston asked where the original policy is located.

Woodruff stated that he did not bring it as he did not want to confuse the issue.

Discussion and clarification for Councilor Weston on how the TAC had considered and approved a policy document for crosswalks, which has not yet been forwarded to City Council for consideration and formal adoption.

Scruton stated he wants crosswalks numbered and registered, with sight distance recorded and listed.

Woodruff gave overview of working spreadsheet document which does have every city crosswalk inventoried, with key features captured, to show committee where city staff are going with the crosswalk review.

Scruton stated he wants the speed limit of the affected road captured/recorded, along with the sight distance.

Motion by Weston to table this item, seconded by Wentworth. Motion passed 6-0.

Crosswalk issue tabled to a future meeting.



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4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Federal/State grant eligible Transportation Improvement Project solicitation and regional priorities, with short presentation by Strafford Regional Planning Commission staff (public input requested)

PowerPoint presentation was given to commission by Cynthia Copeland, Executive Director of the Strafford Regional Planning Commission. Included overview of transportation planning functions, Metropolitan Planning Organization, TIP projects and grant funding. McGowan stated the SRPC is actively soliciting project ideas from communities.

Woodruff gave history of Dover's participation and process in soliciting project priorities.

Ms. Copeland stated that project solicitation occurs every two years. Legislators have stated they want no new projects except related to safety improvements. Described as a zero sum game at present – other projects can be moved out of plan to make room for new projects but overall funding amount cannot be increased.

Ms. Copeland provided list of potential local projects, Woodruff commented and described several for the committee.

Woodruff suggested that City Planning staff prioritize the projects, then return to the TAC for further consideration and recommendation to SRPC on behalf of the City of Dover.

B. Central Avenue Safety and Efficiency Study (Hospital Corridor) review and recommendation to Planning Board RE: Transportation Master Plan

Woodruff gave overview of the project.

Weston stated that she could not recall receiving copy of corridor study prior to today, and did not have time to review.

Motion to table this item made by Clark, seconded by Scruton. Motion passed 6-0.

C. Central Avenue @ Ham Street – traffic concern (from citizen)

Speidel read the text of correspondence from a citizen, Mr. Steve Jumper of New York Street, addressed to Councilor Weston requesting prohibition of left turns onto Ham Street from Central Avenue. Speidel read the text of Speidel's reply to citizen dated March 19, 2009.

Speidel stated that police do not recommend this restriction.

Scruton stated that it is difficult to turn out of Ham Street. Weston agreed.



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Motion by Wentworth to take no further action on this request, seconded by Weston.
Motion passed 6-0.

D. Central Avenue @ Chestnut Street – parking concern (from citizen)

Woodruff stated that a citizen, Art Golden, had brought this concern to Councilor Trefethen. Mr. Golden had a conflict and could not attend tonight's meeting, but did want the opportunity to address the committee.

Motion to table this item made by Wentworth, seconded by Woodruff. Motion passed 6-0.

5. MEMBER COMMENTS

Wentworth stated that NH will soon board its one millionth passenger on the Amtrak Downeaster.

Wentworth stated he still had a concern, as he had stated at last month's meeting, that the signal hardware and signs remain at the lower square intersection (Central and Washington) relating to turns out of Henry Law, which is now one way outbound.

Wentworth stated he is still seeing near misses from motorists getting confused over the signs. Also suggests relocation of the No Turn On Red sign facing Central Avenue northbound. Speidel acknowledged that this concern was forwarded through the Chief of Police to the City Manager following last month's meeting. Both Speidel and Clark stated they would attempt to follow up.

Speidel inquired about status of new TAC member to replace Glenn Grasso.

Weston stated that new member has just been appointed by the City Council.

Woodruff stated he would invite this person to a future meeting.

6. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is April 27, 2009 at 7:00 PM. City staff will attempt to reserve the same conference room.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM.