



CITY OF DOVER

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Council Chambers, City Hall
Meeting Date: **Monday, March 26, 2012**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

ROLL CALL

Weston called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Members present: Councilor Karen Weston (Chair), Dennis Munson, John Scruton, Maurice Olivier, Jack Flick, Jeremy LaRose (COAST), Chris Parker (Planning), Marn Speidel (Police), Peter Schmidt (Alternate).

Members absent: Ben Clark (Community Services)

Others present: Rick and Mary Hebbard, 97 Spruce Lane
Councilor Michael Weeden, Ward 6
Jeffrey Rowe, 228 Spruce Lane (arrived at 6:17 PM)

Weston recognized Schmidt as a voting member this evening in the absence of Ben Clark. Parker noted that this meeting is not being recorded because the Planning Department's recorder has been borrowed by another department and the Council meeting room's audio is not working.

Weston immediately moved to address New Business Item C (Yield sign change at Pierce and Broadway) to the first order of business. Seconded by Parker. Motion passed 9-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposal to change yield sign to stop sign, Pierce at Broadway

Weeden addressed the committee regarding a near-miss incident experienced by a family member and asked that the yield sign at Pierce and Broadway be changed to a stop sign. Parker stated that staff had reviewed the TAC minutes and discovered that this item had been proposed and endorsed by the TAC in 2003. Weston stated that staff should follow up with an ordinance revision.

OLD BUSINESS

Review/Approval of minutes from February 27, 2012

Motion made to approve with no amendments. Motion passed 9-0.

Yield or stop sign request – Spruce Lane Extension at Spruce/Garrison

Olivier stated he had looked at the traffic pattern here and thinks this is much ado about nothing. Scruton stated he agrees with Olivier and does not support a yield sign. Weston spoke in favor of installing a sign and noted that a yield sign would be freed up after its removal from Pierce Street. Weston asked Speidel to reiterate the police department's position. Speidel stated that the police department supports the sign at the former Spruce Lane Extension approach as a means to clarify the right of way rule, essentially eliminating any confusion in the event an officer should respond to a collision here involving conflicting claims of right-of-way. Schmidt stated that this is seldom a dangerous intersection but this is a comparatively low cost for a yield sign. Flick stated he agrees with Schmidt and supports the proposal for a yield sign. LaRose gave overview of his thought process in supporting a yield sign, especially noting the police department's suggestion for it.



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Resident Jeffrey Rowe stated he has lives on this street off and on since 1984 and he does not believe a yield sign is necessary. Resident Rick Hebbard began to play a recording on his laptop and made reference to Chris Parker having lied to the committee. Weston stated that Parker had already clarified a resident's position to the committee and asked Hebbard for the relevance of the recording. Rick and Mary Hebbard stated they wanted to show Parker had lied. Weston stated this was not the proper forum. Hebbard asked what the proper forum is. Weston stated his complaint should be forwarded to the City Manager, and asked Hebbard to stick to the issue of the yield sign.

Hebbard began asking members of the committee in turn whether they had visited the intersection recently. Schmidt objected to Hebbard's comments and a loud verbal interchange ensued between Hebbard, Schmidt, and Weston.

Hebbard produced a document and described it as a petition from all of the affected residents of Spruce Lane Extension opposing the yield sign. The petition was passed around to committee members. Speidel stated that in light of the petition, and despite the previously stated police department position, he would vote in opposition to the proposal. Further discussion ensued.

Speidel moved, LaRose seconded, to recommend that a yield sign be installed. Motion failed 2-7 (LaRose and Flick in favor).

Discussion continued on the subject of curve ahead warning signs for Spruce Lane. Weston asked Speidel how the curve advisory speed would be calculated. Speidel gave overview of MUTCD requirements and said he would defer further to the City Engineer. LaRose noted that where unnecessary cost to the City was cited as one of the reasons for not supporting the yield sign, he would not support a proposal for two signs for the same reason despite the fact that in other respects the signs are a good idea. Further discussion ensued on a recommendation to install advisory warning signs for the curve. Motion to take no further action passed 9-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Neighborhood traffic calming project on Arch, Lexington, Cushing, Belknap, and Atkinson Streets – staff update

Parker stated that City officials will hold their first meeting with the chosen consultant, Jeffrey Taylor and Associates, on March 29. Most other aspects of the process are to be determined by the consultant.

Resolution on USPS Mail delivery on Sixth Street – staff update

Speidel handed out a draft of a resolution that will be forwarded to the Council for a vote.

Committee members were asked to review it and give suggestions regarding language.

Discussion ensued. Weston asked Parker whether he felt that this resolution would have the



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intended effect of forcing the post office to adjust its deliveries. Parker stated he doubted it would. Olivier asked Scruton whether he would be keeping the residents informed. Scruton said he would. Speidel noted that the Council would hear the resolution at the April 11 meeting. Weston asked members to review the document over the next few days and forward any concerns directly to Speidel.

Proposal to change yield sign to stop sign, Pierce at Broadway

Speidel noted Parker's earlier statement that the TAC had already voted to support this action in November 2003. Speidel moved that the TAC reaffirm that vote in light of the time that has passed. Motion passed 9-0.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Discussion ensued regarding the need for more specific rules regarding citizen input and decorum at committee meetings. Committee members gave input. Weston appointed Parker and LaRose to a subcommittee to create draft set of rules that could be integrated with the committee's current Operating Rules.

CONFIRM NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2012 at 6 PM. Parker stated that the site will be determined since there is upcoming work to be done to the Council chambers room.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn passed 9-0 at 7:32 PM.