



CITY OF DOVER

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

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

1. ROLL CALL

Weston called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Members present: Councilor Karen Weston (Chair), Dustin Gray, Maurice Olivier, Jack Flick, Dennis Munson, Marn Speidel (Police), Jeremy LaRose (COAST), Ben Clark (Community Services).

Chris Parker (Planning) arrived at 6:30.

Members absent: Peter Schmidt (Alternate)

Others present: Several residents from Twombly, Preble, Mt Vernon, Court and South Pine Streets.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review/approval of minutes from October 22, 2012

Olivier moved, Munson seconded, to approve with no amendments. Passed 8-0 (Parker was not yet present).

B. Parking as public safety concern on Twombly and Preble Streets – per request of resident and Dover Fire and Rescue

Speidel gave an overview of current conditions using a large scale overhead photo of the area and noted where recent signs/pavement markings had been placed to provide parking buffers already covered by ordinance. Speidel described the concern expressed by Dover Fire with respect to turning Truck 1 – largest truck in their fleet – near the intersections and at the inside corner of Twombly and Preble. Weston asked whether these should be made one way streets because they are so narrow. Speidel stated that making the street one way would have no effect on the on street parking problem as described. Discussion ensued.

Residents spoke in opposition to the loss of more on street parking. Tim Siranian stated that the fire department could be trained to know that for certain streets they have to bring a smaller truck to the area. LaRose stated this could simply be a training and procedure issue with DFD. Erin Jacobsen, 9 Twombly, and Richard Cullen, 20 Preble, stated they are opposed to losing parking spaces. Speidel read correspondence from Sue Wallace of Twombly Street. Discussion ensued on the source of much of the on-street parking and on the upcoming winter parking ban.

Speidel moved, Parker seconded, to table this issue indefinitely to allow City staff to consult further with Dover Fire command staff, with the provision that if further discussion or action were to be taken, that residents would be notified again of an upcoming meeting. Motion passed 9-0.

C. Update on traffic calming pilot project for Lexington, Cushing, Belknap, Atkinson Street neighborhoods

Parker gave an overview of the consultant's recommendations and options as presented to residents at a recent meeting, and gave a handout showing drafts and sketches of some of the alternatives. Discussion ensued.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Safety concern at Mt Vernon and Abbott Streets – resident request to convert from two-way to four-way stop

Speidel shared the concerns of resident Jana Otis of 134 Mt Vernon and George Snow of 179 Mt Vernon who stated they are in favor of making the change. Neither could make this meeting. Speidel gave overview of MUTCD warrant requirements for a four-way stop and said that the police department



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supports this request as an improvement to traffic safety here. Speidel noted similar changes that were made recently at Mt Vernon/Ash and Mt Vernon/Hough.

Resident Pat Leonard of 126 Mt Vernon stated she is opposed to changing to a four way stop. Discussion ensued.

Clark moved, Munson seconded, to take no action. Motion passed 8-1 (Speidel opposed).

B. Sight distance concern from resident – on street parking on Court Street at South Pine

Speidel gave overview of the concern regarding the ability of motorists on South Pine to see clearly looking left on Court Street. The suggestion was for parking to be restricted in front of #55 Court. Resident Tim Siranian of 31 South Pine stated he wants the no parking sign moved farther up the street because it is almost impossible to see around parked cars here. Cathy Bechette of 59 Court Street also spoke in favor of parking restriction. Speidel read correspondence from Jennifer Lirette of South Pine and Carol French of Court Street who also asked for an improvement to the sight distance. Resident Jared Koeck of 55 Court Street spoke in opposition to a parking restriction, and noted that he would be directly affected. Koeck stated that this concern is similar to what happens at many other intersections in the city. Discussion ensued regarding the upcoming winter parking ban. LaRose stated that action should be taken right away.

Parker moved, Speidel seconded, to table this matter to the December meeting to allow staff time to measure and return with a recommendation for an appropriate distance. Motion passed 8-0.

C. MEMBER COMMENTS

Speidel deferred to resident Brian Wheeler of 81 Garrison Road to give further input on the Garrison Road safety concern. Wheeler handed committee members photographs, a chart, and statement prepared by resident Mark Pilon. Discussion ensued regarding the feasibility of a median refuge island, speed table, or other measures to be implemented along this stretch of Garrison Road as a means of traffic calming. Flick suggested that barrels or other temporary measures be implemented similar to what was done in the Cushing/Lexington Street neighborhood.

Weston brought up a traffic safety concern at the intersection of Chestnut and Fourth Streets, stating that this was a concern that was still an issue. Weston referred to a resident petition that had been brought to Councilor Spuler. Concerns over lighting and desire for mid-block crossing treatments were discussed. Parker stated that the Capital Improvements Plan as proposed includes a study of the downtown infrastructure, which could include Chestnut. Discussion ensued. Weston asked for a status report from staff on the crosswalk review. Weston asked for a future agenda item to allow staff to revisit the city-wide crosswalk study and update the committee on which ones have been improved, eliminated, still pending, etc.

D. CONFIRM NEXT MEETING DATE

After discussion, the next meeting date was confirmed for December 17, 2012 at 6:00pm.

E. ADJOURN

Munson moved to adjourn at 8:06 PM, Clark seconded. Motion passed unanimously.