

CITY OF DOVER

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Council chambers, second floor City Hall
Meeting Date: **Monday, May 18, 2015**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

1. Roll Call

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

Members present: Mayor Karen Weston (Chair), Marn Speidel (Police), Gretchen Young (Community Services), Chris Parker (Planning), Brian DeGuzis (COAST), Maurice Olivier, Jack Flick, Peter Schmidt

Members absent: Dustin Gray, Dennis Munson

2. Old Business

A. Review/approval of minutes from Monday, March 23, 2015

Motion: Parker moved, DeGuzis seconded, to approve with no amendments.

Vote: Motion passed 7-0. (Schmidt abstained)

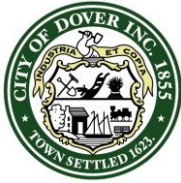
3. Citizens Forum –

Weston noted that Councilor McManus was present to discuss an item that had been addressed during Citizens Forum at a previous meeting.

Motion: Parker moved, seconded by Schmidt, to have citizens forum moved up in the agenda.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0

Anthony McManus, 39 Glen Hill Road, was present to discuss three requested crosswalk locations that were previously reviewed at the December, 2014 TAC meeting. The locations were Jenness Hill @ Stark Avenue, Stark Avenue @ South Watson Lane, and Central Avenue @ Birchwood Place. In December, the Committee voted to take no action on these requests due to safety concerns; Councilor McManus questioned how the addition of crosswalks would be a safety concern. He stated that he has witnessed pedestrians at all of these locations waiting for quite some time to cross, and asked if the policy to not install crosswalks was favoring vehicular traffic over pedestrian traffic. Parker stated that the proposed locations did not meet the warrants as outlined in the city's crosswalk policy. He noted that the committee had discussed different methods for trying to incorporate the crossing at the Birchwood intersection, and had decided to include this as part of the upcoming Birchwood neighborhood enhancement project that is currently in the Capital Improvement Plan. Speidel stated that warrants for painted crosswalks depend on a number of factors including the demand for such walk and whether a crosswalk is at a controlled location versus an uncontrolled/mid-block crosswalk. He explained that the City's crosswalk policy governing proposed uncontrolled crosswalk locations cautions against giving the pedestrian the illusion of safety which may result in the pedestrian crossing into the vehicular path when the driver does not expect to see a pedestrian. Speidel also noted that the school's transportation policy eliminated some school bus routes within the last few years which have introduced some of these pedestrian conflict points in locations throughout the city. Weston asked for all members to visit the three locations that Councilor McManus brought up.



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4. New Business

A. Resident Concern – Speeding on Middle Road

Katherine Dowaliby, 31 Middle Road, was present to discuss her concerns with traffic speeding on Middle Road and throughout the city. She stated that she does not feel safe walking along the side of Middle Road and has had an incident when a driver went across her driveway and destroyed her mailbox as a result of speeding. She said that she has reached out to the police department several times and they have been very helpful, but she still sees high levels of speeding on this roadway. Speidel stated that the police do frequently patrol Middle Road. He said that the traffic counts indicate that the 85th percentile of traffic is traveling at approximately 40 MPH. He noted that traffic volumes have increased from 1,440 trips per day to 1,740 trips per day during most recent data collection, and is likely even higher now. Parker noted that Middle Road is similar to many streets in the city that were originally country roads and are now being used by much larger traffic volumes. He said that the upcoming revision to the Transportation Master Plan will focus on traffic calming efforts throughout the city, and that Middle Road is one of the areas he wishes to review as part of that process. He recommended tabling this until the Master Plan review process has been completed. Weston said that other than additional police patrol, there was nothing that this committee could do at this time, but that they would revisit the area after the recommendations of the Transportation Master Plan. Mrs. Dowaliby said that Sgt. Speidel and the police department have been very helpful with the additional patrols along the road. Mrs. Dowaliby also asked when the crosswalks would be repainted. Young said that the crews are sweeping the streets now and will follow up with painting soon. Weston said that the council had just passed the paving bid.

B. All way stop proposal at Emerald Lane/Susannah's Crossing

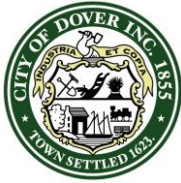
Parker summarized that the third phase of the Emerald Woods development, including a 49 lot subdivision, is currently going through the Planning Board approval process. Some of the current residents have requested an all way stop at Emerald Lane and Susannah's Crossing. There is currently only a stop sign for Susannah's Crossing. The developer has agreed to provide two additional stop signs however, because this is a city street, the PB cannot approve this modification. Parker suggested that the board not take any action until the third phase of development has been approved.

Motion: Parker made a motion, seconded by Schmidt, to table the item until the subdivision has been approved by the Planning Board.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0.

C. Staff update on Transportation Master Plan

Parker summarized that there were seven firms that responded to the Request for Proposal for the update to the Transportation Chapter of the Master Plan. Staff interviewed three and selected VHB to complete the update. The contract will be finalized and presented to the Council at the June 10th meeting. He stated that in the past the TAC has hosted a transportation forum night



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where residents could attend to discuss various concerns and said that this would be a good opportunity to have a kickoff meeting for the Transportation Master Plan. Parker also said that he has advertised for the Steering Committee hoping to find seven residents, and has had 20 applicants. He asked if any of the TAC members wanted to be on the committee before he fills up all of the seats. He said that the Planning Board Chair will nominate the committee on the May 26th meeting. Parker summarized some of the outcomes he was hoping to see come from the chapter update, including recommendations on speed limits citywide, and targeted locations for cost-effective CIP improvements focusing on traffic calming. He stated that the Planning Board owns the document but that the Steering Committee would assist VHB. He said that the meetings would probably be monthly but could increase depending on how the project goes.

5. Member Comment

General discussion ensued regarding items previously discussed in the agenda.

6. Confirm Next Meeting Date

Weston asked if June 22, 2014 works for everyone. Speidel said he may have a conflict. Meeting was set for June 22, 2014.

7. Adjournment

Motion:Parker moved, seconded by Schmidt to adjourn at 7:10.

Vote:Motion passed unanimously.