



CITY OF DOVER

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Council chambers, second floor City Hall
Meeting Date: **Monday, May 20, 2019**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

Members present: Mayor Karen Weston (Chair), Maurice Olivier (Vice Chair), Dennis Munson (Clerk), Marn Speidel (Police), Gretchen Young (Community Services), Chris Parker (Planning), Michael Williams (COAST), Susan Tremblay, Peter Schmidt (Alternate)

Members Absent: David Gray, Dustin Gray (Alternate). The Chair recognized the recent resignation of David Gray.

1. Roll Call

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

2. Old Business

A. Review/approval of minutes from Monday, March 25, 2019

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

Vote: Motion passed 8-0 (Schmidt abstained)

B. My School / Locust Street crosswalk request (from March 25, 2019)

Parked moved, Schmidt seconded, to remove this item from the table. Motion passed 9-0. Young distributed copies of handouts prepared by the Engineering Department, showing various alternatives. Discussion ensued regarding various crosswalk alternatives, and requisite parking restrictions associated with locating the crosswalk north or south of Church Street or Nelson Street. Additional discussion ensued regarding a potential loading zone location on Locust, south of Nelson. Speidel noted that a new loading zone would lead to more pedestrian crossings of Locust.

Motion: Schmidt moved, Munson seconded, to take no action regarding the crosswalk request.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.

C. Thornwood Lane traffic concerns (from October 29, 2018)

Schmidt moved, Munson seconded, to address this item first before agenda item B. Motion passed 9-0.

Speidel gave overview of tabled items from October meeting: 1) truck traffic restriction, 2) speed limit reduction request, 3) crosswalk/stop sign requests

Richard Spence, identifying himself as the infrastructure chair for the HOA, addressed committee. He presented a handout to the committee. Counted number of homes, parking spaces. Schmidt asked about demographics of population in neighborhood. Weston asked for clarification on what kind of trucks to be restricted.

Joe Olson, president of Preston Place (Teresa Drive) HOA, spoke. Represents 14 homes, mostly 55+ population. Stated that in early AM 6-8am, lots of commercial traffic passing through. Older population has grandchildren visiting, lots of dogs and dog walkers. Stated that all-way stop at Pointe Place/Sierra Hill intersection does help calm traffic.

Parker gave overview of phasing for future construction in this development. Discussion ensued, along with review of handout showing schematic of the neighborhood.



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Motion: Schmidt moved, Munson seconded, to install “No trucks” signs on Thornwood/Pointe. Speidel clarified that this would be for the section of road east of the commercial development (from Middle Road) to discourage thru truck traffic from Middle Road and encourage all truck traffic to use Dover Point, in accordance with Dover’s existing commercial vehicle ordinance.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.

Speidel gave overview of 4 crosswalk locations that appeared to be shown on the schematic/plan. Two are “mid-block” on Pointe Place within the mixed use development, a third appears to be shown at Pointe Place/Sierra Hill Drive intersection, and a fourth appears to be shown at Thornwood/Julia/Teresa intersection.

Motion: Parker moved, Schmidt seconded, to endorse the two mid-block crosswalks shown within the mixed use development.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.

Discussion ensued regarding a crosswalk at Thornwood/Julia and Teresa. Parker stated that a four-way stop should be enough to control movements here without the need for a marked crosswalk. Speidel suggested that stop bars be painted as a supplement to the stop signs. Additional discussion ensued.

Motion: Parker moved to recommend that staff paint stop bars, but not install crosswalk signs or crosswalk markings.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.

Discussion ensued regarding a fourth potential crosswalk and all-way stop location at Pointe Place / Sierra Hill Drive. It was noted that stop signs are already in place here, installed by the developer, but this section of Pointe Place has not been accepted by the City as yet. This item was tabled for future discussion.

Discussion ensued regarding the assignment of a speed limit on Pointe Place/Thornwood. Speidel handed out results from a traffic count that was performed just west of the Julia/Teresa intersection, where there is a separation between the mixed use and residential areas. Data showed 361 vehicles per day, average speed 23 mph, and 85th percentile speed 27 mph. Residents have asked for it to be posted at 25 mph. Speidel noted that per RSA 265:63, speed limit could be posted as low as 25 mph if based upon engineering or traffic investigation that includes “an analysis of current speed distribution of free flowing traffic” and guided by MUTCD to assign a limit “within 5 mph of the 85th percentile of free flowing traffic”.

Motion: Speidel moved, Parker seconded, to set a speed limit of 25 mph on Thornwood and on Pointe Place (conditioned upon future City acceptance of Pointe Place).

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.



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3. New Business

A. Staff update on Chestnut Street grade crossing work by Pan Am

Speidel gave overview of upcoming project to reconstruct the Chestnut Street grade crossing, which would result in a multi-day complete closure of Chestnut.

4. Citizens Forum

No citizens spoke.

5. Member Comments

Williams spoke about upcoming public forums pertaining to COAST's proposed service redesign, which is presently on a timeline for July 2020. Forums are scheduled for Tuesday, May 28 at 6 pm at WDH, and Monday, June 3 at 10 am at WDH, along with others across the region.

6. Confirm Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the council chambers.

7. Adjournment

Speidel moved, Munson seconded, to adjourn at 7:27 pm. Motion passed unanimously.