



CITY OF DOVER

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Council chambers, second floor City Hall
Meeting Date: **Monday, June 29, 2020**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

Members present: Maurice Olivier (Chair), Dennis Munson, Elizabeth Goldman, Dennis Ciotti (City Council Rep.), Marn Speidel (Police), Gretchen Young (Community Services), Chris Parker (Planning), Peter Schmidt (Alternate) arrived at 6:15 pm

Members Not Present (excused): Michael Williams (COAST)

Members Not Present (un-excused): Dustin Gray (Alternate)

1. Roll Call

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

2. Old Business

A. Review/Approval of Minutes from January 27, 2020

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

Vote: Motion passed 8-0

3. New Business

A. Richmond Street parking restriction

Stacy Selinas, 27 Richmond Street, addressed the committee. Has resided here for 15 years, spoke in favor of making the parking restriction on the westerly side of the street permanent. Also suggested adding a no parking here to corner sign on West Concord due to issues with cars parking on top of the intersection.

Lisa Meconi, 14 Richmond Street, spoke in favor of a permanent parking restriction.

Michael Lavoie, 3 Richmond Street, spoke in favor of a permanent parking restriction.

Speidel gave brief overview of the proposed restriction. This street was one of several that had a temporary one-side restriction over the course of the previous winter due to narrow width and public safety concerns. After experiencing the temporary restrictions, a number of residents support making it permanent. The westerly side was chosen because of the fire hydrant. Speidel stated that both police and fire departments support the restriction based on the limited roadway width: 25'6" on average which is 6' less than Atkinson which already has a one side restriction.

Motion: Goldman moved, Parker seconded, **to endorse a permanent parking restriction on the westerly side of Richmond and to further request that City staff install "no parking here to corner" signs on West Concord Street consistent with the 20 restriction already in the Code.**

Vote: Motion passed 8-0.

B. Applevale / Middlebrook stop sign request

Susan Boos, 41 Applevale Drive, addressed the committee. Boos stated she brought her concern forward to the police department after a collision occurred at the four-way intersection of Kent, Applevale, Winston and Middlebrook where no stop signs are present.



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She expressed concerns regarding speeding vehicles in the neighborhood and the lack of stop signs at most of the intersections in the neighborhood.

Speidel handed out a Google Earth schematic of the Applevale/Middlebrook neighborhood showing where existing stop signs are located. Speidel noted the absence of stop signs at the previously described intersection and verified that a collision had occurred here where both drivers believed they had the right of way. Speidel indicated that if this neighborhood were laid out today as part of a developer's plan, there would be stop signs at all the T intersections where a minor street intersects. Speidel recommended a two-way stop on Kent and Winston where they intersect with Middlebrook/Applevale, and five other locations where stop signs are lacking.

Motion: Parker moved, Speidel seconded, to endorse a City ordinance revision to add a total of 7 stop signs in this neighborhood:

Kent Ave at Applevale/Middlebrook
Winston Ave at Applevale/Middlebrook
Salem Ave at Applevale (both ends)
Winston Ave at Applevale
Kent Ave at Newport
Newport Road at Hawthorne

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.

C. Crosswalk concerns, in-street pedestrian crossing signs

Speidel gave an overview of correspondence that had previously been forwarded to the committee members. Owners of a downtown business suggested the City employ a "Stop for pedestrians" sign in the street such as one shown in a historical photograph of the Central/Second crosswalk location. Discussion ensued. Speidel noted that these devices are included in the City's Crosswalk Policy and Standards document and have been used in the past, but cited several reasons why they are no longer used routinely. Young cited difficulties with plowing. Parker noted concerns with sign pollution in the downtown, budgetary constraints, and funding for downtown improvements moving forward that would change the configuration of this intersection. Goldman suggested more planning is needed. Ciotti stated that more discussion is in order. Consensus from the committee was to recognize the correspondence but take no formal action at this time.

D. Back River / Spruce intersection crosswalk request

Speidel gave overview of correspondence from a citizen suggesting that the City install a crosswalk on Back River Road, connecting the sidewalk on the easterly side of Back River with the newly completed sidewalk along Spruce Lane. Speidel and Young stated that staff had discussed this during the planning stages of the sidewalk construction project, but staff has safety concerns about a new uncontrolled crosswalk here and generally feel that it is safer not to have a crosswalk so that the onus is on the pedestrian to ensure there is a safe gap to cross. Speidel noted that staff would need to review traffic volumes, measured speeds, pedestrian usage, and other factors as part of an assessment study consistent with the City's crosswalk



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policy. Speidel stated that in part because of COVID-19 repercussions, the police department had not conducted a traffic count because traffic volumes are skewed much lower than normal. Speidel stated that the police department would conduct a traffic count and then use the data to inform a crosswalk assessment. Consensus from the committee was to table this item for further review.

E. Woodland / Longmeadow stop sign request

Speidel gave overview of correspondence from a neighborhood resident which had already been forwarded to the committee, suggesting that an all-way stop be considered here. Speidel noted that this situation does not appear to meet the MUTCD stop sign warrant requirement, since a stop sign is already included on the minor street (Longmeadow) and stop signs are not generally used for speed control. Parker suggested that the committee generally prefers to hear testimony directly from residents to help inform the discussion. Consensus from the committee was to take no action at this time.

F. Correspondence review: Central Avenue / Franklin Plaza intersection

Speidel gave overview of citizen's June 11, 2020 correspondence expressing concerns about turning movements at this intersection, where motorists generally reverse direction from Route 108 northbound to proceed southbound. Speidel summarized recent improvements to signage and pavement markings here to delineate the lane movements and restrictions here. Speidel also summarized the reasons why alternative lane configurations would be more confusing or problematic than the current one. Consensus from the committee was to recognize the correspondence.

3. Citizens Forum

No other citizens were present.

4. Member Comments

Goldman asked Young for an update on the sidewalk inventory. Young summarized the status. The "mobilization" cost item came back higher than anticipated in the bid, resulting in a decision to not move forward with the bid this year. The inventory continues to be a staff work item.

Young stated that the City has received consultant bids for a project to make utility improvements and upgrades on the lower Central Avenue corridor (project limits from Silver Street to Stark Avenue).

Parker gave update on the Washington Street community trail crossing: CDBG and City Council have approved funding, and this is targeted for design and implementation over the fall and winter of 2020.

Oliver asked Young to summarize the agenda items from tonight's meeting.



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5. Confirm Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for August 24, at 6:00 pm in the council chambers.

6. Adjournment

Motion: Munson moved, Parker seconded, to adjourn at 6:45 pm.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0.

DRAFT