

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of September 11, 2013 Meeting
Public Services Administration Building
Needham, MA

IN ATTENDANCE

TMAC Members: Thomas Stokes, Lt. John Kraemer, Jeffrey MacMann, Tony DelGaizo
Glen Schneider, Donna Mullin, Mark Rosen, Robert Meltzer and Bob Wilson

Guests: David Berke, Mike Adams, Andy Gassman, Suzy Kajunsky, Julie Fuhrer,
Christine, Mawhinney, Prashant Pandey, Kathleen Leahy, Rob Black, Carrie, Dendry, Thomas
de Jager,

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 7:05 PM by Mr. MacMann

I. SPEED, SIGNAGE NEHOIDEN ST.

Ms. Leahy returned to the meeting for an update on the results of a traffic study. The study was conducted earlier this year on both Nehoiden and Parish as part of an application to the State for a truck exclusion. The application is currently being reviewed and a preliminary response is imminent. Mr. Wilson agreed to place a follow up call to the DOT to track the status of the review and also agreed to call Ms. Leahy with any relevant updates.

II. INTERSECTION, SIGNAGE MELROSE AND UPLAND

Mr. Berke presented his concerns about the absence of any traffic controls at the intersection of Melrose and Upland. The situation is exacerbated by trees on Upland which reduce visibility at the intersection. The **Committee passed a motion** to conduct a traffic study to determine if the lower volume of the two streets warrants a stop sign (both sides of intersection).

III. CROSSWALK, INTERSECTION MAY STREET AND WEBSTER

Ms. Kajunsky made an inquiry about the feasibility of placing a crossing guard at the corner of May and Webster. Children headed towards St. Joe's or High Rock have to go all the way to Webster and Great Plain to cross at the light. Her suggestion was to move one of the two crossing guards at NHS "down a couple of blocks" to accommodate the pedestrians at Webster and May. Lt. Kramer explained that both current staffing levels and budget restrictions prohibit any expansion or reassignment of the crossing guard staff.

IV. SIGNAGE EXIT OF POST OFFICE DRIVEWAY AND GREAT PLAIN

Mr. Gassman presented his concern about instances of vehicles turning left on to GPA exiting the Post Office driveway. This issue remains a problem despite efforts on the part of the PO to address the situation by moving the exit mail boxes back, painting more visible lines and placing signs on both the right and left sides of the driveway. It was explained to Mr. Gassman that while the PO can put up the signs, they are not enforceable on private property. He was also

reminded that the town is considering a full re-design in which both the exit and entrance are both on Linden Street.

V. INTERSECTION CROSSWALK HIGHLAND AVENUE

Ms. Retik raised the issue by e-mail but was not present at the meeting. Mr. Del Gaizo did discuss her issue by phone. Specifically, she was suggesting that the DPW paint “SLOW” on Highland Avenue (both directions) near the Memorial Park staircase. This is in response to the increased pedestrian traffic that has been generated by the opening of Orange Leaf and Subway. Mr. Del Gaizo agreed with her suggested and received approval from the TMAC to proceed. .

VI. INTERSECTION, SPEED, SIGNAGE ON NARDONE ROAD AND JARVIS

Ms. Mawhinney described the changing nature of this area with new construction and many new young children. This has raised concerns about an increased volume of traffic and the need to control speed at the intersection. Mr. Del Gaizo pointed out that any regulatory signage would first require a traffic study. Since the intersection may not meet the volume threshold, other options were discussed as well including, traffic calming options, and commercially available signage. The **Committee passed a motion** to conduct a traffic study at the intersection of Nardone and Jarvis Circle.

VII. SPEED, SIGNAGE ON HIGH ROCK AND EMERSON ROAD

Ms. Fuhrer described the challenge of pulling out of her own driveway onto High Rock particularly when cars “race” to make the green light crossing Chestnut. TMAC members who had seen the property pointed out that the overgrowth of bushes and hedges was partially contributing to the problem since ongoing cars could not see the driveway. The homeowner’s written inquiry to the Committee inquired about the possibility of placing a “blind driveway” “slow” or speed limit sign on High Rock as traffic approaches the home. The **Committee passed a motion** to conduct a speed/volume study at this point on High Rock. In the interim Ms. Fuhrer agreed to trim the bushes that may be impeding the visibility of her driveway (and cars pulling out).

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Minutes from previous meeting were approved subsequent to discussion to clarify one notation regarding Ms. McDonough on Dawson Road. The Committee agreed that she did not need to secure signatures from the entire street but just the immediate abutters on the section of Dawson Road between Broad Meadow and Dunbarton.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Minutes compiled and summarized by Glen Schneider

Minutes submitted with summary of all TMAC follow-up items (separate attachment)

