

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of December 11, 2013 Meeting
Public Services Administration Building
Needham, MA
(Updated Jan. 10, 2014)

IN ATTENDANCE

TMAC Members: Jeffrey MacMann, Anthony Del Gaizo, Lt. John Kraemer, Richard Merson, Glen Schneider, Robert Meltzer, and Donna Mullin.

Guests: Stanley Simon and Maggie Shapiro.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 7:02 PM by Mr. MacMann.

I. Signage on Fair Oaks Park.

Mr. Simon discussed the grass berm in front of his house, which gets destroyed by vehicles that pull off and park on Fair Oaks Park. Other houses on this road between Kingsbury and May Streets have blacktop over the berm. Snow pins were installed, which help keep vehicles on the asphalt. He requested that the Committee install blacktop over the berm, install a “no parking” sign, or let him leave the snow pins installed. The Committee, through Mr. Merson, said that it will determine where Fair Oaks Park is on the list for repaving with regards to blacktopping the berm. The Committee told Mr. Simon that for a no parking sign, he must discuss the idea with his neighbors and raise a petition. Mr. Simon said that he will see how the snow pins work over the winter with keeping vehicles off the grass berm, and he will come back in the spring if this remedy is not sufficient.

II. Crosswalk at West Street and Hunnewell Street.

Deferred due to absence of applicant or designee.

III. Crosswalk at Highland Avenue and Hunnewell Street.

Deferred due to absence of applicant or designee.

IV. Intersection, signage at Highgate Street/Helen Road/Woodledge Road.

Ms. Shapiro reported that the intersection of Highgate Street, Helen Road, and Woodledge Road could use a stop sign, primarily because there are stop signs at other Woodledge Road intersections and it is unsafe and confusing for drivers to then enter the busy Highgate/Helen/Woodledge intersection with no traffic control devices. The Committee agreed that the intersection is ambiguous and has low visibility, but noted that multiple traffic studies have been completed in recent years in response to other requests that this intersection have a four-way stop sign or just a stop sign for Highgate Street. However, the studies showed that there is more traffic on Highgate Street, which would require that Woodledge and Helen Roads be stopped. In addition, there is a low accident rate at this intersection. Thus, the Committee could not install the formerly requested stop signs as the warrant requirements were not met. The previous groups did *not* want to stop Woodledge and Helen Roads only, and since the Committee generally respects the sentiments of the immediate neighborhood, it did not install

stop signs for this intersection. However, Ms. Shapiro was informed that if she could successfully collect signatures on a petition from neighbors in the immediate vicinity of the intersection, she should come back to the Committee for further discussion.

V. Other Business

- **The Committee passed a motion** to mail renewal inquiries to those who currently possess overnight parking permits.
- **The Committee passed a motion** to table items 2 and 3.
- **The Committee passed a motion** to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2013 meeting.
- Mr. Merson updated the Committee on the TMAC Frequently Asked Questions compilation. An old copy was found, and the Committee agreed to discussion revisions and additions at the next meeting. It was generally agreed that the FAQs will be beneficial to both paper and electronic applicants. Still undetermined is the proper and most effective method of delivery to complainants.
- Mr. Merson informed the Committee that the Board of Selectmen:
 - approved a truck exclusion on Nehoiden Street after receiving permission from the state;
 - eliminated the senior center parking on Pickering Street;
 - approved a three-hour parking restriction on Hillside Avenue near the new senior center; and
 - authorized two stop signs on Kingsbury Street.
- The Committee preemptively cancelled the May 14th, 2014 meeting due to Town Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Minutes compiled and summarized by Robert Meltzer.