

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of February 8, 2017 Meeting
Public Services Administration Building
Needham, MA

IN ATTENDANCE

TMAC Members: Donna Mullin, Ford Peckham, Tony Del Gaizo, Lt. Belinda Carroll (for Lt. John Kraemer), Stephen DeLisi, Richard Merson, Kara Holmquist

Technical Advisor: Bob Wilson

Guests: Helena Bialski, Gillian Fontana, Emily Schuller

CALL TO ORDER

I. ELECTION OF A NEW CHAIR

Ford Peckham offered to chair the next 4 meetings until his term is over.

II. SCHOOL ZONE DESIGNATION ON BOBSLED/BOOTH STREETS

Helena Bialski presented concerns about the speed of traffic on Bobsled and Booth. She is requesting some signage to make drivers know there are a lot of children living in the area, given the speed at which cars come down Bobsled and speed up to go up Booth, and the angle of the turn. There was a discussion of the options for making a school zone in the area (it is within 1,000 feet of Hillside School) and other sign options to slow traffic. The study showed the average speed to be 24 miles/hour (below the maximum 30 miles/hour). There aren't enough vehicles passing through to meet the threshold to install a stop sign.

After a full discussion of the issues, it was decided that Helena will obtain signatures from residents in the area attesting that they support having a children playing sign installed. She will also discuss with her neighbors on whose property line this sign would be welcome. She will bring the petition to Nikki Witham at Town Hall before the next meeting.

III. SIGNAGE ON HILLSIDE AVENUE

Gillian Fontana, an employee in a medical office at 464 Hillside Avenue, presented concerns about cars parking on Hillside Avenue. She shared photos showing how parking on the street has resulted in reduced visibility for cars leaving the driveway at her office building, especially at night. There has been an increase in cars in the last 6 months, possibly due to employees working in another office building in the area. She is asking for no parking signs.

After a full discussion of the issues, a Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to install no parking signs running along 464 Hillside and 444 Hillside Ave (Center Automotive) pending letters of non-objection from these property owners.

IV. INTERSECTION, SIGNAGE ON DELL STREET AND HOLMES STREET

Emily Schuller appeared on behalf of Gregory Bayse, the principal at the Mitchell Elementary School. Their concern is with children on bikes travelling down Dell and crossing the intersection at Holmes without stopping. There is a blind spot created by shrubbery on one of the properties that makes it difficult for people driving on Holmes to see up Dell. The traffic study shows 375 cars passing on Holmes and 222 on Dell. She is asking for a stop sign on Holmes, but in order to have 4-way stop sign, the ratio of cars crossing those streets needs to be more balanced.

After a full discussion of the issues, a Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to install a watch for bicycles sign on Holmes on the approach to Dell.

V. SPEED ON HAMPTON AVE & MILLS FIELD ENTRANCE

Peter Grasso was not present.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

VII. MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 14, 2016 MEETING

The Minutes of the December 14, 2016 meeting were reviewed and approved with two edits: 1) in IX, changing the sentence from "Also, it was reported that "tracking" lines *have been* installed on Chapel Street" to "Also, it was reported that "tracking" lines *need to be* installed on Chapel Street" and 2) fixing a typo in the date in X.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:50p.m.

Minutes compiled and summarized by Kara Holmquist