

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting February 11, 2009
Broadmeadow School Media Center, Needham, MA 02492
MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE

Meredith Page, Tony Del Gaizo, Bob Wilson, Lt. John Kraemer, Rick Merson, Paul Gordon, David Callaghan, Thomas Stokes, Rebecca Turner

Guests: Roger Ambuter, Evan Saks, H.P. Delgado

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 7:05 pm.

I. 1154 GREAT PLAIN AVE. (CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH)

Mr. Ambuter requested that there be no parking allowed on Sundays in front of the path on Great Plain Avenue that leads to the Congregational Church. He explained that, if a car happens to park in front of the path, congregants who park along Great Plain Avenue must either climb over large snow banks to get into the Sanctuary or walk in the street to the corner. Lt. Kraemer and Mr. Merson will provide Mr. Ambuter with "No Parking" cones to place in the road in front of the walkway.

II. SAFE CROSSING CONCERNS ON CENTRAL WHILE WALKING TO HILLSIDE SCHOOL

Mr. Saks appeared before the Committee to see if any progress had been made on providing a safe way to cross Central Avenue at West Street in order for his children to get from their home on Brookside Road to the Hillside School. He previously appeared before the Committee in September 2007. The problem of vehicle speed and lack of places for pedestrians to cross Central has been brought before the Committee numerous times. The speed limit cannot be lowered from 35 mph due to state warrant restrictions. A light with a pedestrian phase is scheduled to be installed at the Forest/Central intersection in the future. The police will monitor speed along Central with the motorcycle officer as soon as weather permits.

III. INTERSECTION OF HUNNEWELL ST. AND WELLESLEY AVE.

The safety of the intersection of Hunnewell Street and Wellesley Avenue and the possibility of putting a stop sign on Wellesley Avenue was discussed. A letter explaining that Needham does not possess the authority to stop Wellesley traffic will be sent to Mr. Rossetti.

IV. TUDOR RD. AND BROADMEADOW

The Committee discussed an email from Mr. D. Murphy about the safety of the Tudor Road and Broadmeadow intersection (especially at school release times) because of parked cars, stopped traffic, and many children crossing the street. This area has been the subject of concern before by Ms. R. Clifford and a letter will be sent encouraging Mr. Murphy to work with Ms. Clifford to petition homeowners on Tudor Road to limit parking to one side of the road. It was also suggested that school vehicular traffic could be reduced by encouraging more students to walk to school with help from Safe Routes to School. This has worked at other elementary schools in town.

V. NEW BUSINESS

The May TMAC meeting date was discussed. There was concern that there would be a conflict with Annual Town Meeting

Action: It was moved and seconded that the May TMAC be canceled. The motion was called to a vote and was passed unanimously.

Minutes from January 14, 2009 TMAC meeting

Action: It was moved and seconded that the minutes from the January 14, 2009 be accepted. The motion was called a vote and was passed unanimously.

A letter received from Ms. Emily Salaun was discussed. This letter was a follow-up to items discussed at previous meetings: fencing at Tower and Greendale, fencing at Manning and Lindbergh, and the intersection of Nevada and Greendale. The Chairman requested that a letter be sent to Ms. Salaun.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Del Gaizo reported that a speed and traffic count update was underway and that a new map should be ready by July. Mr. Del Gaizo also updated the status of various construction projects around town including the Chestnut Street signals, the Charles River/Central signal, and the Route 128 widening.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday March 11th at 7:00 pm.

These minutes are intended to convey the general content of the discussions at the TMAC meeting.

Minutes compiled by: Rebecca Turner