

## **DRAFT Minutes of the Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting February 26, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM.

Attending Committee Members were: Soraya Stevens, Margot Fleischman, AnnaLisa Madison, Dan Silverman, Evan Deardorff

Guest Attendees: Chief Bongiorno, Officer Saucier, and Lt. Graham

- Reviewed meeting minutes and amended minutes. Minutes accepted unanimously.

### Selectman Update

- Getting ready for town meeting and a review of the warrant doesn't indicate any transportation related items.
- BAC put in a request for funds for bicycle repair stand probably located at the end of the bike path. They might get enough funds for a second one.
- There was a request for funds to repair the narrow gauge trail. They will resurface the crushed stone and hopefully repair some of the washed out areas.
- Renzo's RFP has not gone out. Soraya indicated that Roy told the TAC that the RFP had gone out in the January Meeting.
- What happened to the taxi-voucher program? Unfortunately the taxi service that is the contractor in Lexington comes from Waltham. There isn't an obvious taxi provider that would be interested in this.
- There is a bridge near the Elmbrook trail being replaced. The Washington Street foot-bridge has been condemned. They want to replace it with a new bridge that is in the public easement.

### Planning board meeting

- Industrial Zoning amendments postponed until Fall town meeting.
- PB is considering in detail several options for becoming a regional leader in transportation demand management, taking advantage of the new transportation management association set up by the Middlesex 3 Coalition (the regional economic development organization), as well as other resources. PB considering policies that would require larger businesses, or coalitions of smaller ones, to join a TMA for transportation mitigation.
- There is potential for a little café next to the bike store. The 54 Loomis location may also have some food-oriented businesses in it.

### Traffic Calming Discussion

- We need to have coordinated communication between TAC, DPW and police regarding traffic
- Soraya to email the draft Traffic Calming document to the police chief.

#### Discussion with Bedford Police Chief Robert Bongiorno

- Traffic calming
  - We need a screening process and a group to do that
  - Transportation Advisory Committee Role discussion:
    - In Chief Bongiorno's town, everything came through a TAC. There was a police liaison on the TAC in his town. If there was a request for signage or pavement markings, the decisions of the TAC went up to the Selectmen. If transportation issues would come up in Selectmen meetings, the requests would go back to the TAC.
    - That group looked at costs, feasibility and initial engineering ideas.
- When they rewrote the traffic rules and regulations, they were last updated in the 60's and 70's.
- Needed to take inventory of signage and needed to make sure the Selectmen voted those signs in.
- If we have that direct link with road projects then if the traffic-calming group could put together some ideas to incorporate in the road projects.
- We need to have Adrian and Roy give TAC updates on road projects so we can give that input.
- Discussion of Renzo's intersection. Can we put a no left turn sign on Concord Road facing Renzo's driveway? Are "no left turn" signs put up by the town enforceable? We need signage to be able control egress.
  - Mass general laws 89-9 regulates traffic signs, signals, yield.
  - The only private property signage that is enforceable is no parking and handicap
  - Significant discussions ensued
- Speed tracker devices and radar recorders to collect data in neighborhoods. The old ones were too big. The new ones are ultra-portable. They will be purchasing new equipment to mount on telephone polls. The devices feed real time online. There are photos (low res - cannot read license plates). But it will give them times. Gives the person's speed before seeing the sign and after seeing the sign. The counters give input on the type of vehicle passing. With the radar it is very discreet so people don't know they are there and they get an accurate reading.
- They did a study with the Middlesex CC to monitor what people were doing at some major intersections. They have a distracted driving program running at the schools (alternating years with drunk driving program at prom time).
- In the past, they had a pedestrian enforcement grant. They had a plain-clothes officer stand in the crosswalk and others ticketing.

- What can we do between 4-5:30 to make traffic better here?
  - We need to take a comprehensive look at our thoroughfares. We need to look at light timing and try to force the cut-through traffic onto the main roads.
- We don't have a lot of "no parking" signs in town.

Meeting adjourned 9:50pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Soraya Stevens