

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (TSC)

JANUARY 26, 2015

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Dave Wheeler (Chairman)
Gil Archambault
Bill Parker
Tina Philbrick
Chief Mike Viola, Police Chief (late)
Gary Daniels, BOS representative

Absent: Rick Riendeau, Director of Public Works Department

Chairman Wheeler opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. and recognized Bill Parker who had brought a guest. Bill Parker introduced Jason Plourde, a Milford resident from Woodhawk Drive in Badger Hill who would like to volunteer to serve on the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee. Jason is a Traffic Engineer with Time Bond in Portsmouth who Bill has been doing some work with, most recently on Cumberland Farms. Jason expressed his desire to serve on the committee; he has lived in Milford since 2001 and has been in his industry for 19 years. Most recently has volunteered with the Economic Development Advisory Committee. Chairman Wheeler told Jason that he appreciates his interest and that appointments to the committee are made by the Selectmen. Tina Philbrick directed Jason to her office in the Town Hall and they could fill out the paperwork and get him before the Board at the next meeting scheduled for February 9th.

Gil Archambault moved to approve the minutes of December 8, 2014. Gary Daniels seconded. All were in favor.

Chairman Wheeler then addressed the Old Business on the agenda:

1. Wallingford Road issues: In the spring the TSC will re-visit.
2. Request for crosswalk on Nashua Street at Cahill Place. Waiting for reports from Rick Riendeau on curb cuts and handicap issues of where a crosswalk could be put. There was no representation of Cahill in the audience; therefore the item was left on the table.
3. Request for Stop Sign at King and George Street. Gary Daniels motioned to remove this item from the table for discussion; which was seconded by Gil Archambault. All were in favor. There was no one in the audience representing the request. Gil Archambault asked if there was any report available on the area. Captain Craig Frye responded that he did not know if the Chief has formally put anything together but as had been discussed at the last meeting, there have not

been any accidents there and there is only one house beyond the intersection. Gary Daniels made a motion to recommend **not supporting the request for a stop sign at King and George Street**. Gil Archambault seconded the motion. Gary stated that he had purposely traveled the area to take note of the traffic. That combined with the statistics of no accidents at the intersection leads him to believe that the traffic in the area is very familiar with the roads. With no more discussion, all were in favor of the motion.

New Business:

1. Request from the Montessori School to install a sign indicating a School Entrance as submitted by Linda Bliss 672-5875: Ms. Bliss was present as well as three parents who have children attending the Montessori School. Ms. Bliss conveyed that with the school being on a busy road (Mont Vernon Street), there have been a lot of near misses during drop off and pick up times. They have installed a mirror and are wondering what else could be done to enhance the safety of those exiting the parking lot. One of the parents felt that some of the traffic is speeding by at around 45mph. She wondered about making it a 20 mph zone or placing a Police Officer there. Gary Daniels stated that it may be an enforcement issue and that the Police Department could monitor the area. It is a very busy area with the Post Office, Grove Street, etc. headed out of the center toward North River Road. Another parent stated that a lot of the problems are with the large trucks going/coming from Milford Lumber and the Busses. Chairman Wheeler asked Bill Parker if we were allowed to post signs on State roads. Bill thought that we could, as long as we took care of it and it was in the compact area. There was also a mention of installing a blinking light. Gary Daniels said he had not sat in the parking lot to gage the site line. Captain Frye stated that it was approximately 75 feet. He feels that a sign might not help as even if you notice the sign, you are already on top of the school. Chief Viola said that they would do some traffic patrols there and utilizing some of the unmarked cars, monitor the traffic and use radar to find out if the speed is excessive. Then the marked cruisers will make their presence known and start enforcement and education. Target times will be 8:30-8:45, 11:30-11:45 and 2:45-3:00. At that time he will report back to the committee and decisions can be made from there. A motion to table this item until further information was obtained was made by Gil Archambault, seconded by Tina Philbrick. All in favor.
2. Request for a Stop Sign at the end of Phillips Way from Ledgewood of Milford submitted by Mrs. Hemerich: There was no one in the audience to speak to this request. Bill Parker stated that he had looked at the original plans for Ledgewood and that there was a stop sign pictured in the plan. Chairman Wheeler stated that there are only four houses on Phillips Way. There is plenty of sight distance left and right, he is unsure why this has been requested. Captain Frye stated there were no trees or anything to obstruct the view. Jason Plourde added that unless you were unfamiliar with the area, there would not be a problem. He had pictures from Google maps for all to see. Gary Daniels asked Bill Parker if the stop sign in the original plans made the sign a requirement. Bill Parker felt that it was a little late now. Gary asked if there was any history of

accidents there. Captain Frye replied that to be sure he would have to run numbers but he didn't think there has been any there. Any traffic not turning onto Phillips would be going to Ledgewood. Gary moved to **not recommend the request for a Stop Sign at Phillips Way.** Seconded by Chairman Wheeler. All in favor. Bill Parker will also check to make sure that there is not something in the road acceptance file indicating that a Stop Sign should be there.

3. Request to address parking concerns on Nashua Street at the intersection of Linden Street. Poor visibility issue. Chief Viola stated that there is plenty of room there to nose out to see if anything is coming. Captain Frye added that there is 10 feet from the stop line to the edge of the sidewalk. It was felt that Nashua Street was the designated parking for those using Shepard Park and that the rest of the perimeter of the park was posted no parking. To remove any more parking would be a deterrent to those parents, etc. supporting their children while they were involved in sports. In 2014 there were 0 accidents in the area. In 2013 there was 1 at the entrance to MMC (rear-ender). In 2012 there was 1 at Linden Street (turning into) (rear-ender) and 1 at the entrance to MMC (rear-ender). Gary Daniels asked if the spots near the intersection were marked compact cars and if it was monitored. Captain Frye replied that they were marked compact and it isn't monitored as there is no ordinance and enforcement would include physically measuring the vehicles. After a discussion on enforcement and opposition to the enforcement and alternate routes to exit onto Nashua Street including Shepard and Wheeler Street, Chairman Wheeler noted that there seemed to be a consensus relative to the matter. Gary Daniels made a motion to **recommend that nothing be changed relative to the parking spaces on Nashua Street near Linden Street** and that those concerned should seek alternate roads accessing Nashua Street. Seconded by Tina Philbrick. All in favor.

Motion to adjourn at 4:45 p.m. Tina Philbrick seconded. All were in favor.