

Traffic Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2022 – MPD Community Room

Committee Members	Staff	Guests
Dave Wheeler, Vice Chair	Cpt. Craig Frye, MPD	Rich DeMidio
Wade Scott Campbell, member	Leo Lessard, DPW	Jean DeMidio
Nick Darchik, member		Tracy Lagasse
Chris Labonte, member		
Gary Daniels, BOS representative		

1. **Opening.**

- Selectman Gary Daniels opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. and announced that Chairman Jason Plourde was unable to attend the meeting.
- Selectman Daniels stated that the Board of Selectmen had referred the issue at hand, regarding the intersection of Osgood Road and Nye Drive, to the Traffic Safety Committee for a recommendation.

2. **Issue Summary.**

- Rich and Jean DeMidio were recognized to summarize the issue, which pertained to a blind spot from the crest of a hill when traveling south on Osgood Road approaching Nye Drive, such that there were concerns by drivers turning onto Osgood Road from Nye Drive.

3. **Committee Comments.**

- A number of committee members and staff physically visited the intersection.
- Mr. Darchik, sharing his knowledge of the MUTCD (Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices), recommended posting a “Hill Blocks View” sign, with a reduced speed sign mounted below it.
- Selectman Daniels had visited the intersection and noted that there was heavy vegetation along a stone wall, blocking the view when looking north from Nye Drive. He suggested that cutting the vegetation back would be advantageous to drivers going south on Osgood Road, as well as drivers entering Osgood Road from Nye Drive.

4. **Staff Comments.**

- Captain Frye stated that there had been no report of accidents at that intersection
- Director Lessard stated that Nye Drive was not a town road, but instead was a private drive, even though the road name did not indicate that it was private. As such, the dictates of the MUTCD did not apply in this case.

5. **Conclusion.**

- Following discussion pertaining to Nye Drive being a private drive, and therefore not applicable to the MUTCD, the committee recommended that vegetation be cut on the public property from Osgood Road to the exterior stone wall north of Nye Drive, and that permission be sought from the resident abutting the stone wall north of Nye Drive to cut back vegetation growing from the top of the wall and possibly on the resident side of the wall to improve visibility to traffic coming over the crest of the hill.
- The committee also felt it was prudent to discuss the options with the (absent) committee chair, who works daily with the MUTCD, to see if the committee missed any options that could be offered to Mr. and Mrs. DeMidio.
- The town would communicate to the DeMidio’s once these actions are taken.

6. **Other Business.**

- Captain Frye stated that he had received a similar concern from a resident on Osgood Road, but that based on the committee's discussion this evening, he believed he had enough information to respond back to the resident.
- Minutes from the previous Traffic Safety Committee meeting were deferred until the next Traffic Safety Committee meeting, as the majority of the members present were not present at the previous meeting.

7. **Adjournment:** There being no further business. Mr. Wheeler moved to adjourn. Mr. Darchik seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Daniels
Acting Secretary