

Town of Belmont, MA

Traffic Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting February 11, 2010

Members present: Linda Nickens, Tommasina Olson, Larry Macdonald, and Ron Sacca. Ex-Officio members present: Glenn Clancy, OCD and Sgt. Kevin Shea, BPD. Absent: Andrea Masciari, Dana Miller, and Peter Curro.

The meeting was called to order at 7:25PM by Linda Nickens, Chair.

Minutes: Ron Sacca had corrections to the December 2009 Minutes. They will be corrected as requested and sent out. The January 14, 2010 Minutes were approved.

New Wellington School Traffic Plan – Orchard Street Abutter Concern:

GC reported that the Board of Selectmen approved the New Wellington School Traffic Plan 2 weeks ago. Sandra Curro, a resident of Orchard Street, expressed concern about exiting her driveway. GC responded that because of her location she could go either way. A letter was received from Margaret Waters of 100 Orchard Street expressing concerns and issues about no parking on the even side of Orchard Street. GC reiterated that the Fire Chief does not want parking on the even side of Orchard Street. (Memorial Park side) Sgt. Shea stated that he has spoken with Margaret Waters several times on daily issues. GC said that the only way to address concerns is to add in bump outs. TO suggested possible parking in the Wellington Lot. GC stated if no bump outs there is no solution. LN suggested that TAC revisit when the new Wellington School opens. TO questioned about the direction of one way. RS suggested put bump outs on the even side of Orchard Street. GC said that he will let Margaret Waters know that TAC will continue to look into possible solutions. GC stated that the goal is to have the new Wellington School completed by July 2011 and opening by September 2011.

GC then introduced Karl Haglund, a member of the Planning Board and Liaison to the TAC. He spoke briefly about the Townwide Comprehensive Plan, and the TAC's involvement in addressing Traffic and Parking issues in Belmont Center and Cushing Square.

New Business:

- McLean Hospital Traffic Pattern:

Response to correspondence received from Rosalie Kerr.

LN stated that the roadways in question were purposely not connected. (McLean Drive and Olmstead Drive) Partners Healthcare did not want through traffic. Legal documents and negotiated arrangement are in place. GC said there are still Assisted Living and Research and Development parcels still to be developed. LN said that through traffic issues were hotly contested during the McLean development process. GC also said that these are private roadways. GC said that he will respond that TAC feels strongly about protecting previously negotiated arrangement. Partners Healthcare and residents of Mill Street and Pleasant Street neighborhoods opposed through traffic access.

● Upland Road and Slade Street:

Response to a letter received from Emily Soltanoff. Sgt. Shea reported that there had been 9 accidents in 10 years at this intersection. LN suggested painting yellow stripes. GC stated that this intersection does not warrant 4 Way Stop signs. TO suggested installing a bump out. GC replied that there is no money in the budget. GC will respond to Emily Soltanoff. He will say that is some merit to her concerns and that TAC will further study.

● Common St./Washington St./Hastings Rd. :

This discussion is in response to a letter from Myron Kassaraba about traffic concerns at this intersection. Sgt. Shea reported that pop ups for additional speed enforcement are in place for a 2 week period. TO pointed out that major work has been done at this intersection in the last couple of years. GC said that some signs could be moved from other location and placed here to make people aware of crosswalks. (White St. area) TO said that speed is really not that fast. Curve and neckdown tend to slow traffic. Sgt. Shea said that Common Street is a difficult road to enforce. He will put in for more enforcement. Again, GC will respond – TAC will review – and additional signage may be provided.

Old Business:

Chester Road – School Zone:

On a petition from Sid Werlin, resident. There is still a question about the sign package. Still on table.

TO moved, RS seconded; Motion to Adjourn.

Meeting Adjourned, 8:44PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurence P. Macdonald, Clerk

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Residents/Others Present February 11, 2010

Karl Haglund, 35 Stone Road; Planning Board Liaison to TAC