Town of Belmont, MA
Traffic Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting March 11, 2010

Members present: Linda Nickens, Andrea Masciari , Laurence Macdonald , Tommasina Olson, Dana Miller, Ron Sacca , and Peter Curro.

Ex-Officio members present: Sgt. Kevin Shea, BPD.

Absent: Glenn Clancy, PE; (attending Capital Budget Meeting)

The meeting was called to order at 7:06PM by Linda Nickens, Chair.

Minutes: The February 11, 2010 Minutes were approved.

Upland Road/Slade Street intersection - Update:

Sgt. Shea reported that the Speed/Traffic/Data count equipment has been installed at this intersection. Any further action/discussion will be tabled until next month when data should be available.

Common Street/Washington Street/Hastings Road Intersection - Update:

Sgt Shea reported that increased pop up enforcement on this section of Common Street has been in effect.

New Business:

Oliver Road – Request from Cyclist for signage:

A Cyclist would like the "No Right Turn" sign amended to read "No Right Turn Except for Bicycles". DM asked about the cost of the sign. Sgt. Shea responded that the cost would be minimal and that GC would recommend approval of the sign.

Upper Concord Avenue – Residents Action:

Sgt. Shea reported that the section of Concord Avenue from Pleasant Street to Mill Street is scheduled for repaving in 2010. A Resident's Committee has been formed to discuss the planned repaving of Concord Avenue and address concerns and issues by the neighbors. They were meeting on Thursday, March 11, 2010 at the Belmont Day School from 7pm to 8pm. They will be in touch with the Town and TAC in the near future. A copy of the letter is on file.

Old Business:

RS still opposes the 7am-9am closing plan for the New Wellington School. He feels that 8am-9am would be sufficient. Ron still opposes the 4-Way Stop at the School Street and Goden Street intersection. This is an off-center intersection. He also commented on the number of signs around town regulating parking, advising xwalks and other regulatory information. Also, he pointed out some the plowing problems associated with bump outs. TO responded that bump outs slow traffic down. AM stated that bump outs create a safer crossing for pedestrians. TO said that drivers changes patterns with changes. RS mentioned that drivers with cell phones, iPods and other electronic devices are distracted while operating. LM stated that the BOS have taken a proactive stance on reducing signage around town. Sgt. Shea said that TA Tom Younger has been very active in reducing signage. The Sgt. Stated that some signs will be relocated to new areas where needed. For example; removing signs from White Street and moving them to the Common/Washington/Hastings area to alert motorists about the crosswalks. This would apply to other locations as well. RS pointed out the traffic mess around Hittinger Street. TO suggested that RS be on the 'sign' committee. GC will follow up on RS suggestion about a chart of actions taken in the past, so that a follow up/evaluation can be made in 6 months time. TAC thought this to be a good idea. Sgt Shea said a review of the Unity Avenue changes would be made.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurence P. Macdonald, Clerk

approved 4/8/10