

# Town of Belmont

## Traffic Advisory Committee

May 8, 2008

### Minutes of Meeting

Present: Linda Nickens, Laurence Macdonald, Ron Sacca, Peter Curro, Tommasina Olson, Andrea Masciari, Glenn Clancy and Lieut. James MacIsaac

Absent: MaryJo Frisoli and Philip Richmond

Linda Nickens acted as Chair for this meeting.

LN called meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Approval of minutes put off till June.

### Agenda Items:

LN stated that Karl Haglund's presentation from the Planning Board would be postponed till June.

Discussion of signage on Hurd Road and Selwyn Road at their intersections with Oakley Road followed. LM wanted No Right Turn 7am-9am and 1:30pm-3:00pm installed at these intersections. LM, GC and Lt. MacIsaac offered their comments. Lt MacIsaac stated that the proposed signage would be confusing as One Way Do Not Enter signs are already in place where these roads intersect with Jackson Road. Traffic should not be coming up toward Oakley Road. The proposed signs would indicate that you could travel in this direction. Proposal tabled for further study.

Discussion of 4 Way Stop Sign at Goden Street and School Street intersection followed. Glenn Clancy read a letter from Anne Paulsen, a resident of School Street requesting that a 4 Way Stop Sign be installed at this intersection. The problem here is the way the intersection is configured. A discussion followed. With a stop sign on School Street approaching Goden Street, traffic would back up across Goden Street coming down from Washington Street. A study would be required to support 4 Way Stop. GC suggested that a professional engineering study be made to make this intersection safer. The cost of the study would be approximately \$3,000.00. Lt. MacIsaac endorsed this proposal. TO wants study to include traffic impact of the new Wellington School included. RS concerned about traffic backup and effect on the neighborhood. GC said that he would not proceed without a study.

approved as written 6/5/08

LM moved: That the TAC recommends that an engineering study be made to consider safety improvements for the intersection of Goden Street and School Street.

The motion was seconded by TO.

The motion was unanimously passed.

MARKINGS  
DIRECTOR

Ron Sacca then expressed concerns about signs around town that state "dangerous intersection". He feels that these signs could have a legal impact to the town. If these intersections are considered dangerous why hasn't the Town addressed the issues? TAC has not endorsed the placement of these signs. GC said that signs and pavement issues come out of the Highway Department budget. Lt. MacIsaac stated that DPW Commissioner Peter Castinino wants BOS approval and paper trail on these matters.

Next on the agenda was a discussion of Payson Road. GC read an email from Ed Ognibene, a resident of Payson Road. He was requesting that Payson Road be made one way toward Belmont Street from Peqosette Road and Fairview Avenue. GC said that TAC has not supported one way streets because of impact on other neighborhood streets. The resident was still concerned about speeding on Payson Road and was looking for possible traffic calming methods on Payson Road. GC said that the traffic survey showed that 8 out of 500 cars travelling in one direction were going 40 MPH, while 13 out of 314 were going 40MPH in the opposite direction. GC also reported that the TAC does not implement traffic calming on neighborhood streets.

New Business:

PC asked about what has happened to the traffic signal ahead sign on Concord Avenue coming down the hill toward Pleasant Street. GC will check into this.

LN asked about the repair and final transition between the sidewalk and residents walk at 626-628 Pleasant Street. A woman reportedly has fallen at this location. GC said the asphalt transition was a temporary fix for the winter. This situation is being addressed as the Pleasant Street reconstruction continues.

AM expressed concerns about parking in the Beech Street and Drew Road areas and the effect the Senior Center will have? GC stated that the proposed reconstruction of Beech Street has been moved up due to the construction of the Senior Center. Also, the Pavement Management Committee has made recommendations about parking on Beech Street. TAC should have follow up. GC will send a PDF to members.

AM moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm. Motion was seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurence P. Macdonald, Co-Secretary

**From:** Ed\_Ognibene@waters.com [mailto:Ed\_Ognibene@waters.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 07, 2008 11:42 AM  
**To:** Clancy, Glenn  
**Cc:** Daniels, Pauline  
**Subject:** Fw: Payson Road Excessive Speed Issue

Greetings Glenn,

Thanks again for approving the elimination of the yellow line on Payson Road. It's not quite faded yet, but should be within a few months. I'm sure this will help somewhat. We also appreciate the work done by Sgt. Maclsaac and the Belmont Police Department to capture the data and assemble the histograms.

However, we continue to see drivers traveling at excessive speeds (45+ mph), particularly north-bound and during rush hours (morning and evening). I would like to propose that the TAC consider additional measures to reduce traffic speeds on Payson Road. I still believe that a 4-way stop sign would reduce speed (for most drivers), although I respect the professional opinion of the police if they feel that this would have no impact on speed.

Perhaps making the souther most block of Payson Road (between Trapelo & Fairview Ave) a one-way street during rush hours (6-9 AM and 4-7 PM) would be more effective, with no permitted access from Trapelo Road. That would reduce the number of north-bound speeders and should be reasonably inexpensive.

Alternatively, we spoke about the possibility of more dramatic alterations, such as lane restrictions or bump-outs, but they are more costly. I don't know if the 2008 budget would allow for such things, but this may be an option as well.

Please let me know what options are viable and what additional steps would need to be taken to present additional proposals to the TAC.

Best regards,  
Ed