Town of Belmont, MA
Traffic Advisory Committee (T.A.C.)

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TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA.
JUN 19 2 07 PM '13

Minutes of Meeting July 12, 2012

Members present: Larry MacDonald (Vice Chair), Dana Miller (Clerk), Linda Nickens (Chair), Tomasina Olsen, and Matt Sullivan

Ex-Officio Members present: Glenn Clancy, PE; Sgt. Benjamin Mailhot, BPD

Also present: Annah Abrams, 15 Goden Strret; Ian Findlay, 93 School Street; Deborah Galli, 16 Myrtle Street; Laurie Graham, Belmont School Committee; Steve Herbst, 605 School Street, Carlisle; Margaret Leidler, 25 Fairmont Street; Anne Marie Mahoney, 24 Goden Street; Kristina Makara and David McDonald, 5 Spinny Terrace; John Murphy, St. Joseph's Parish; Jane and David Otte, 9 Goden Street; Anne Paulsen, 90 School Street; Stan Rome, 97 School Street; Dan Scharfman, 79 School Street and Belmont School Committee; David Sullivan, 15 Fairmont Street; Amy Wagner, The Wellington School; Margaret Waters, 106 Orchard Street; Daniel Winter, 10 Fairmont Street; George and Mary Wybieralla, 101 School Street;.

Linda called the meeting to order at 7:12.

June, 2012 Minutes: The TAC unanimously approved of the minutes as submitted.

Wellington School Traffic: Linda welcomed Amy Wagner of the Wellington School and Laurie Graham of the School Committee. Glenn presented the BOS approved plan for traffic in the neighborhood of the Wellington School. Linda summarized the community experience of the new traffic plan as this has been reported to the TAC and Glenn: generally, the plan is working well. Several residents praised the plan and asked the TAC not to make changes—at least until the town has information about the traffic implications of the new preschool that is opening in the St. Joseph's buildings.

Residents agree that the Wellington School is no longer a neighborhood school. One resident suggested that the town consider redistricting to better distribute students among the town schools.

Multiple residents spoke about the importance of the 4-way stop at the intersection of School and Goden Streets in making the intersection and School Street much safer for pedestrian traffic. Residents also observed that a significant number of drivers disregard the signage. Residents wondered if it might be possible to use a crossing guard at this intersection or install a raised intersection here. Glenn explained that the town lacks funds for such a project.

Linda reported 73 School Street requested that a no parking sign be posted in front of the property. Glenn will clarify the request and report back to the TAC.

A representative of St. Joseph's parish voiced concern that parents use the church parking lot as a cut through from Orchard Street to School Street. Discussion of continuing concerns about this problem and about school personnel and parents parking in the St. Joseph's parking lot prompted TAC members to explain that the TAC has no purview over parking or driving on private property. TAC members recommended that school and church representatives work together to address this continuing problem.

Concerns about traffic imbalances and signage variability led the TAC to unanimously approve the standardization of time limits on one-way signs for traffic around the Wellington school. The posted times for one-way traffic will now be from 8 to 9am and from 2 to 4pm on school days.

Fairmont Street residents reported an increase in traffic on Fairmont Street. The residents believe that cars are moving at 40+mph on the street and that many parents park on the street during school drop off and pick up. Parents reportedly drive on both sides of the street. The turn from Glendale to Orchard is a problem. Because there is no stop sign at the intersection of Goden and Orchard, the traffic at the intersection is also a problem.

The TAC voted unanimously to install an 8-9am and 2-4pm no-right-turn sign on Glendale at the intersection of Orchard Street. The TAC also voted unanimously to install no-idling signs on existing poles on Orchard Street

The TAC made a note of resident reports that the timing is off on the flashing signs on Common and Orchard Streets and Glenn agreed to research this.

An Orchard Street resident told the TAC about parents parking in no-parking areas and idling on Orchard Street and about school busses and Purecoat trucks travelling on Orchard Street. Orchard Street residents also reported that parents use the school handicapped parking lot for rolling drop off and that, when leaving the lot, some drivers turn left despite the signage.

In response to resident requests, a radar trailer will be parked on Orchard Street at the beginning of the school year. The electronic police message board by the Belmont Center train station will be used to communicate traffic calming messages.

The problem of traffic blocking the driveway at 101 School Street has not yet been resolved. Glenn and the TAC indicated that the TAC would continue to work on this problem.

Other Business: Mill Street: A resident reported that many drivers heading in the direction of Winter Street take a cut through when approaching Concord Avenue on Mill Street. Instead of driving straight on Mill Street to the stop sign at the intersection, they turn right, closer to the service station—as if planning to turn right onto Concord Avenue.

Then, instead, they turn left onto Concord Avenue. There have been many near-miss driving incidents. Evidently trucks make this cut-through because it allows them improved visibility for traffic. The TAC voted unanimously to post a no-left turn sign on the cut-through road. Glenn will further research the problem and report back to the TAC.

At 9:29pm, the TAC voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Attached, from Sergeant Mailhot: General Laws, Chapter 90, Sections 17 and 18.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Miller, Clerk

Clancy, Glenn

From: Donald L. Becker [dlbesq02478@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 12:27 PM
To: Clancy, Glenn
Cc: Georgia Asimakopoulos
Subject: Re: School Street

Hi Glenn:

Thank you for your followup. Mr. Asimakopoulos requests a 24/7 restriction for reasons of safety. Particularly given the immediate proximity of his house to the school. the dangerous condition of cars parking on top of or next to his driveway can exist at any time.

Please let me when this matter will go before the Selectmen so that I can attend.

Don

From: "Clancy, Glenn" <gclancy@belmont-ma.gov>
To: Donald L. Becker <dlbesq02478@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 9:56 AM
Subject: School Street

Good morning Don:

I want to let you know the TAC approved the parking restriction in front of 73 School Street . Does your client have a preference for the time of the restriction (all the time, certain hours, etc)? I don't recall if we spoke about that.

Thanks, Glenn

Clancy, Glenn

From: susan carey [susanacarey@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 6:01 PM
To: Clancy, Glenn; lcnickens@verizon.net
Cc: johnbcarey@hotmail.com
Subject: Traffic/Pedestrian Concerns on Orchard Street
Attachments: IMG_1719.JPG; IMG_1782.JPG; IMG_1783.JPG; IMG_1784.JPG; IMG_1724.JPG

To the attention of the Traffic Advisory Committee:

Here are a few pictures which show the chaos on Orchard St. - for drivers, kids walking (trying) on the sidewalk, etc.

It's great that things have improved on School St. Myrtle St and Glendale. There are some ongoing issues on Orchard Street, which is not surprising given that Orchard Street is the primary site of drop off and pick up, as well as the service entrance for deliveries and garbage pick up. At the past meeting, we mentioned the ongoing issues of speed of the drivers, parents parking on both sides of the street (in spite of instructions and signs), and drivers routinely going down the one way street the wrong way.

There have been the following changes: an increased number of students/families using the school, the smaller parking lot on Orchard St (which is supposed to be for faculty and LABB drop off but which is used every day by parents going in and out), the service entrance which is in use all day, and the main parking lot which is accessed via Orchard Street. These changes have turned the street into an experience analogous to entering the Burlington Mall. Pedestrians trying to negotiate the sidewalk have to navigate around copious amounts of trash which sit on the sidewalk from early morning until mid-afternoon. The one-side only parking on orchard worked briefly but the culture has shifted again with parents parking on both sides of the street making fire truck and emergency access impossible, let alone access for residents.

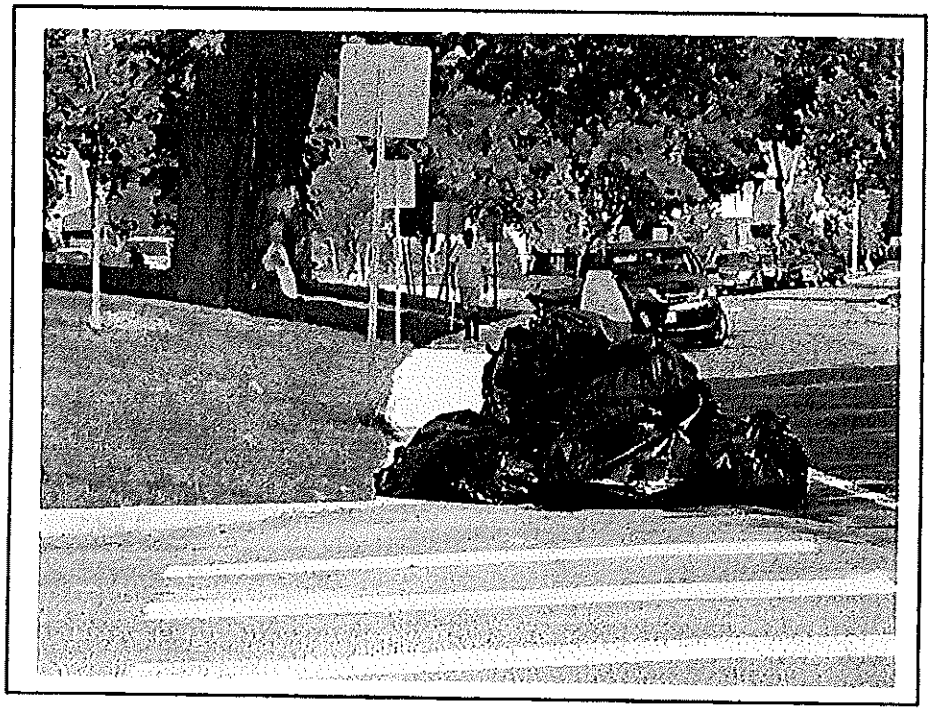
We are told that there are not enough officers to enforce these rules and we have been told that there will not be a crossing guard. Without some presence from the police or the school, it seems unlikely that the behaviors will change. While we understand that there is a shortage of guards, this is one of the busiest and most chaotic streets for kids to navigate. Unfortunately, there can't be a raised crosswalk (which we initially advocated for) because it would exacerbate new drainage problems which were introduced with the paving of the street. Many of these problems could be solved and we hope that the TAC will continue to look into these concerns.

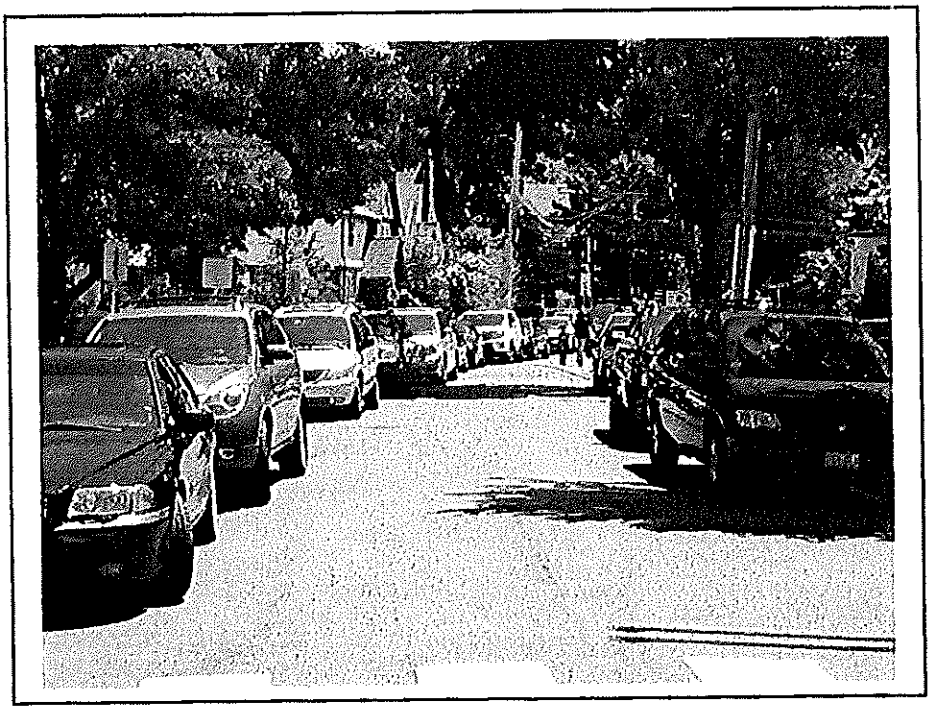
We have a conflict with tonight's meeting or we would be there to say this in person.

Thank you for your time and attention to these issues.

Susan and John Carey
124 Orchard Street

STUDENT
DROP-OFF
AND
PICK-UP
AREA





Clancy, Glenn

From: steve.herbst@comcast.net
Sent: Friday, June 22, 2012 10:37 AM
To: Clancy, Glenn
Cc: steve.herbst@comcast.net
Subject: Mill St & Concord Ave becoming dangerous - add a NO LEFT TURN sign?

Hi Glen,

This is probably not the first time you have heard about cars heading north on Mill Street using the gas station at Mill and Concord Ave to cut in front of other cars waiting at that intersection's stop sign. It happens constantly - cars make a right into the gas station, left at the stop sign across Mill Street, and sail past the car that is waiting. Essentially, cutting the line. On heavy traffic days, as many as half of the cars do it, sometimes creeping up the breakdown lane to get to the gas station, while the others try to be good citizens and wait their turn.

Yesterday I witnessed a potentially fatal near miss as a car in front of me at the stop sign raced to beat a car that was using this shortcut to cut in front of him. The car at the stop sign was so focused on beating the car cutting him from the right that he almost hit head-on another car coming from the left on Concord Ave.

A simple solution would be to add a NO LEFT TURN sign to the stop sign on Mill Street. Would such a thing be possible? I think most motorists would obey the sign if one was there, and this cutting practice would trickle off.

I've been driving this route for about 10 years and I can see from the stops and starts that the line cutting gets a lot of people very angry every day. Not safe.

Thanks for your consideration.
-Steve

Steve Herbst

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MEMO

MEMO TO: Board of Selectmen
Kellie Hebert, Interim Town Administrator

FROM: Glenn R. Clancy, P.E.

SUBJECT: Requests for Signage

DATE: June 13, 2012

The following requests for signage have been received. I have reviewed each request and in the case of the handicap parking signs I have consulted with the Traffic Division of the Police Department.

Handicap Parking Space

The following locations are requesting a Handicap Parking space. Each property owner will be required to show evidence of a handicap placard.

36 Creeley Road – Conditional on relocating an existing crosswalk
3 Harriet Avenue
104 Clark Street – Belmont Housing Authority

No Parking Here to Corner

Burnham Street at the intersection of Burnham Street and Lexington Street gets congested with parked cars especially during church services at the First Baptist Church which is located at this intersection. A No Parking Here to Corner sign, posted on the side of the road across from the Church, will help make the intersection safer for vehicles entering and exiting Burnham Street.

Form Two Lanes

Concord Avenue at Blanchard Road is wide enough to support the delineation of two travel lanes. A sign stating Form Two Lanes will instruct motorist to form two lanes thus allowing for more efficient traffic flow through the intersection into Cambridge.

All signs will be provided and installed by DPW. I respectfully ask approval for these sign requests.

Google

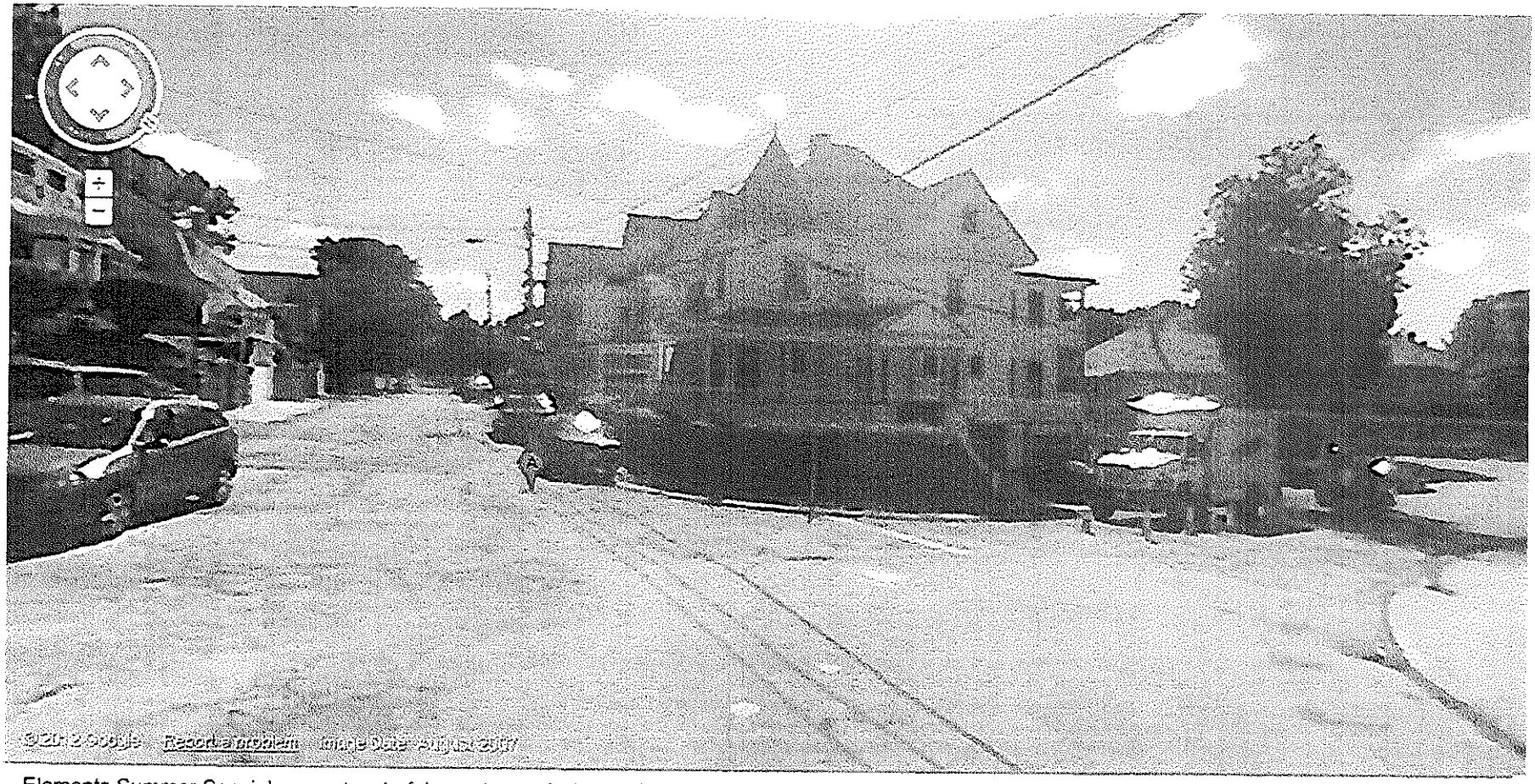
To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.

Elements Summer Special - www.touchofelements.com/ - "New" Client introductory offer. $49 for a 55 minute **Massage**!

Ad

Google

To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.



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Ad

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Wedding **Dance** Lessons - www.studio665.com/ - Providing lessons for all levels in Greater Boston since 1984!

Ad

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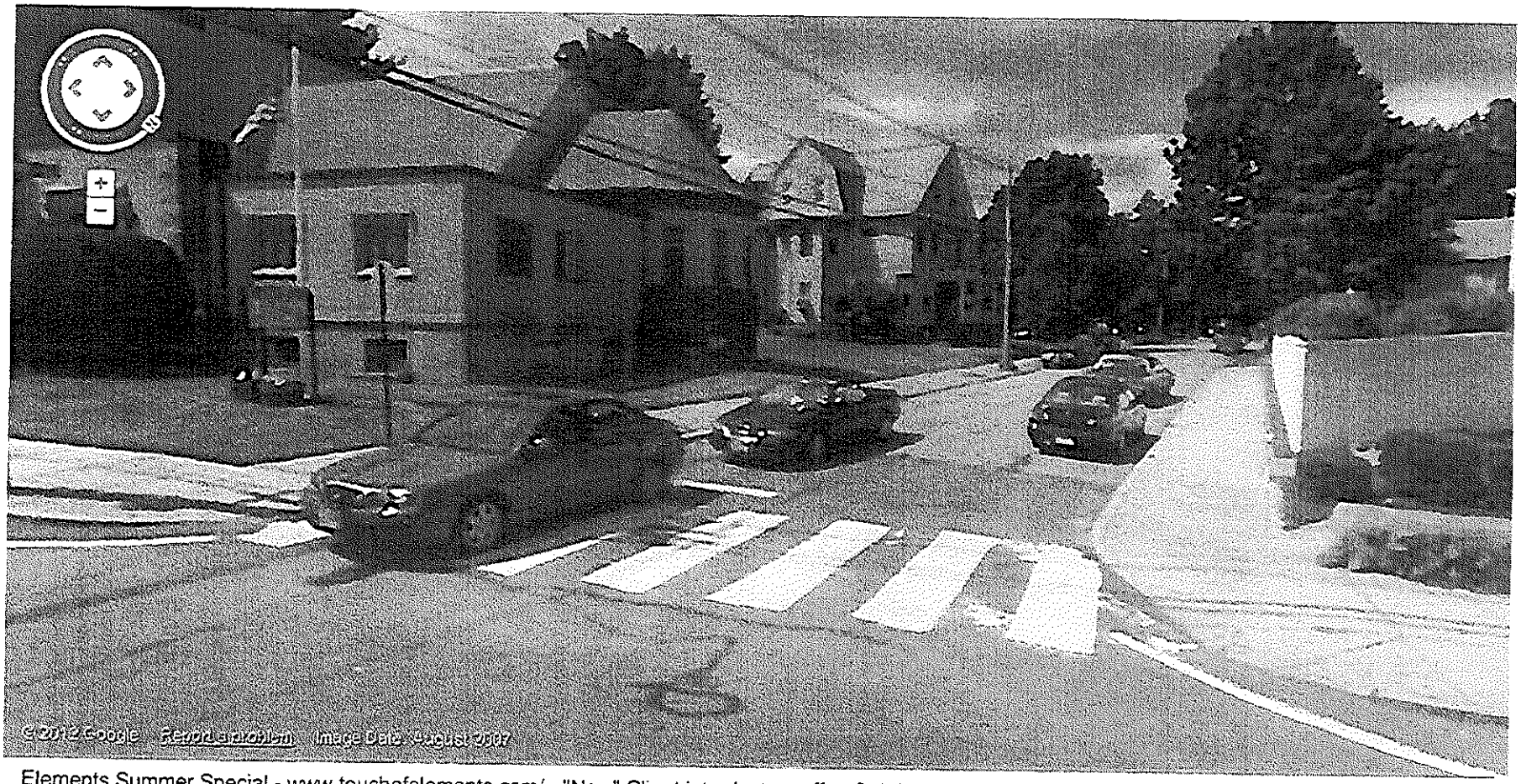

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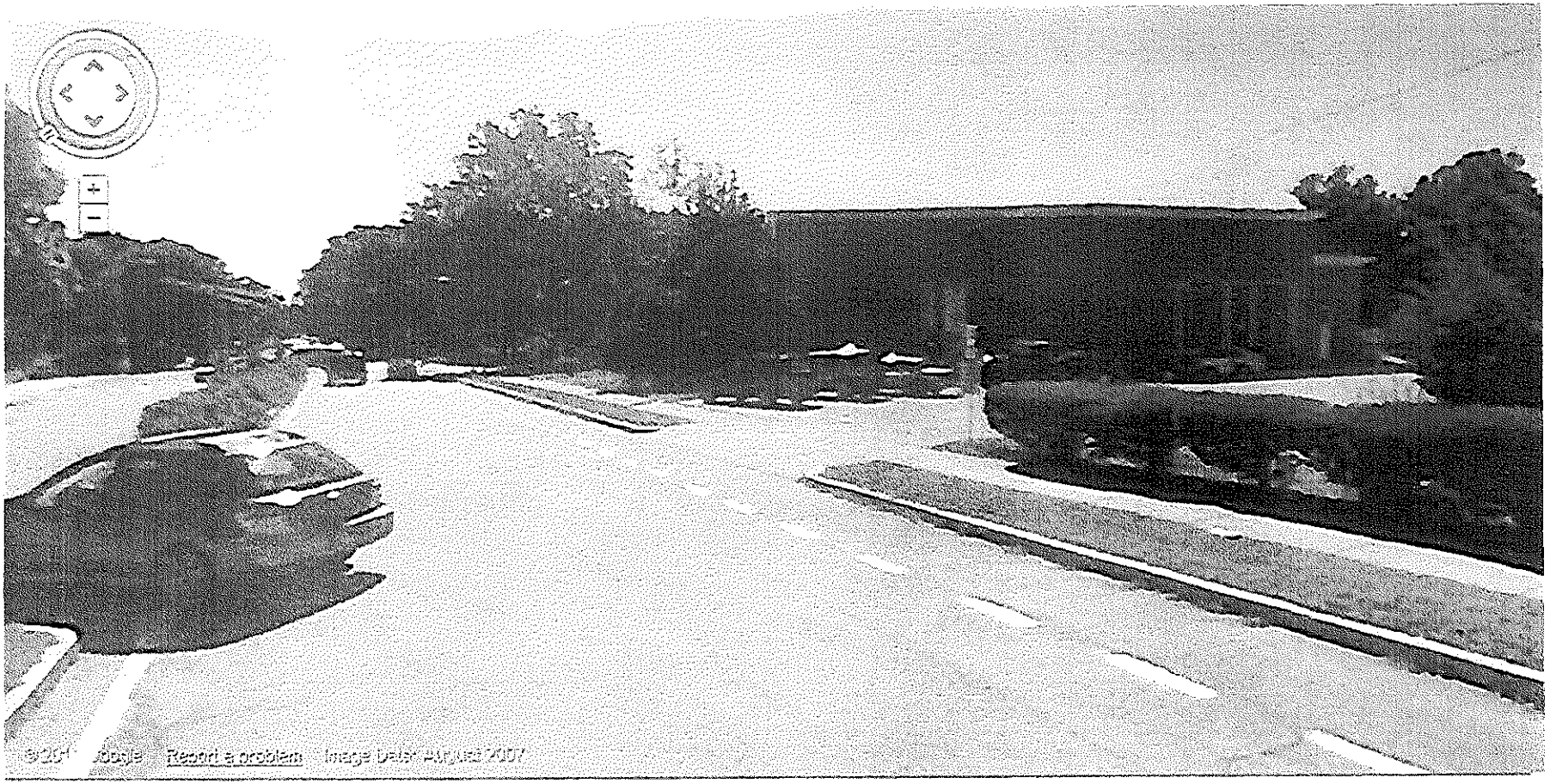

Wedding **Dance** Lessons - www.studio665.com/ - Providing lessons for all levels in Greater Boston since 1984!

Ad

Clancy, Glenn

From: D'Andrea, Adriana on behalf of Selectmens Mailbox
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 11:23 AM
To: Clancy, Glenn
Subject: FW: Community Planning
Attachments: Attach0.html

Adriana D'Andrea

Selectmen Office

Town of Belmont

Phone # 617-993-2610

Fax # 617-993-2611

From: Kathy Penny [mailto:Pennylovaa@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 22, 2012 10:11 AM
To: Selectmens Mailbox
Subject: Community Planning

Request From: Kathy Penny
Email: Pennylovaa@aol.com
Source IP: 24.34.250.180

Address: 43 Burnham Street Apt A-3
City: Belmont
State: MA
Zip: 02478
Phone: 6034750398
Organization:

Greetings. Please route this comment as you see fit. I'd like to request a "No Parking from here to corn" sign for the entry of Burnham Street (in front of the house with the white fence, which is on the right hand side of the road). There is a problem with the First Baptist Church which is on the corner of Burham and Lexington. Congregants park on both sides of the entry to Burnham Street, causing a very dangerous situation with this road. It reduces the road to a one way, and it would be VERY easy to clip a car (or worse, a person!) when cars are parking on both sides of the street. Putting a "No Parking" sign at the entry to the street would make it so participants would have to park further down Burnham, where the road is much wider than the entry and far less dangerous. As a

resident and concerned citizen of Burnham street, I really appreciate it. Please contact me if there are any questions.

5/10/2012

Clancy, Glenn

From: Donna Hamilton [donnahamilton@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2012 1:50 PM
To: Clancy, Glenn
Subject: Re: Handicap

Hi Glenn,
I was wondering if you heard anything further on this issue.
I just received an inquiry from WCI and I wasn't sure where we are with this request.

Thanks, Glenn. I hope that all is well with you.

Donna
----- Original Message -----
From: "Donna Hamilton" <donnahamilton@verizon.net>
To: "Clancy, Glenn" <gclancy@belmont-ma.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 2:28 PM
Subject: Re: Handicap

> Thanks very much, Glenn!
>
> Donna
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "Clancy, Glenn" <gclancy@belmont-ma.gov>
> To: "Donna Hamilton" <donnahamilton@verizon.net>
> Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:59 AM
> Subject: RE: Handicap
>
>
>> We do this through me and the traffic division of the police department
>> (Sgt Shea). We evaluate and make a recommendation to the selectmen who
>> must ultimately approve the request.
>>
>> I'll send this to Kevin and get the ball rolling.
>>
>> Thanks, Glenn
>>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: Donna Hamilton [mailto:donnahamilton@verizon.net] Sent: Tuesday,
>> December 13, 2011 9:49 AM
>> To: Clancy, Glenn
>> Subject: Fw: Handicap
>>
>> Hi Glenn,
>> Could you tell me how we would proceed with this? Thanks, Glenn!
>>
>> Donna
>> ----- Original Message -----
>> From: "Sallye Bleiberg" <sallyebleiberg@verizon.net>
>> To: "Donna Hamilton" <donnahamilton@verizon.net>
>> Sent: Saturday, December 10, 2011 9:30 AM
>> Subject: Handicap
>>
>>
>> I think it best if the BHA, as the owner of the property, seek handicap
>> restriction parking for that Clark House immediately. You can include
>> Paul (is that his name?) on the request, but it should be started first
>> thing
>>
>> Monday morning. Thanks, Sallye

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

TOWN OF BELMONT
19 Moore Street
Homer Municipal Building
Belmont, Massachusetts 02478-0900

Telephone: (617) 993-2650 Fax: (617) 993-2651

Building Division
(617) 993-2664
Engineering Division
(617) 993-2665
Planning Division
(617) 993-2666

April 27, 2012

William Crimlisk
36 Creeley Road
Belmont, MA 02478

Dear Mr. Crimlisk:

I received your letter requesting a handicap parking spot at 36 Creeley Road. I tried to telephone you but the number was not in service (774-250-2068). I'm writing to ask if you are aware that an on street handicap parking space does not allow you to park on the street overnight. The Town of Belmont parking restrictions still apply, even to a handicap parking space.

Please let me know if you are still interested in having a handicap space designated.

Sincerely,

Glenn R. Clancy, P.E.
Director

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Please let me know if you are still interested in having a handicap space designated.

Sincerely,

Glenn R. Clancy, P.E.
Director

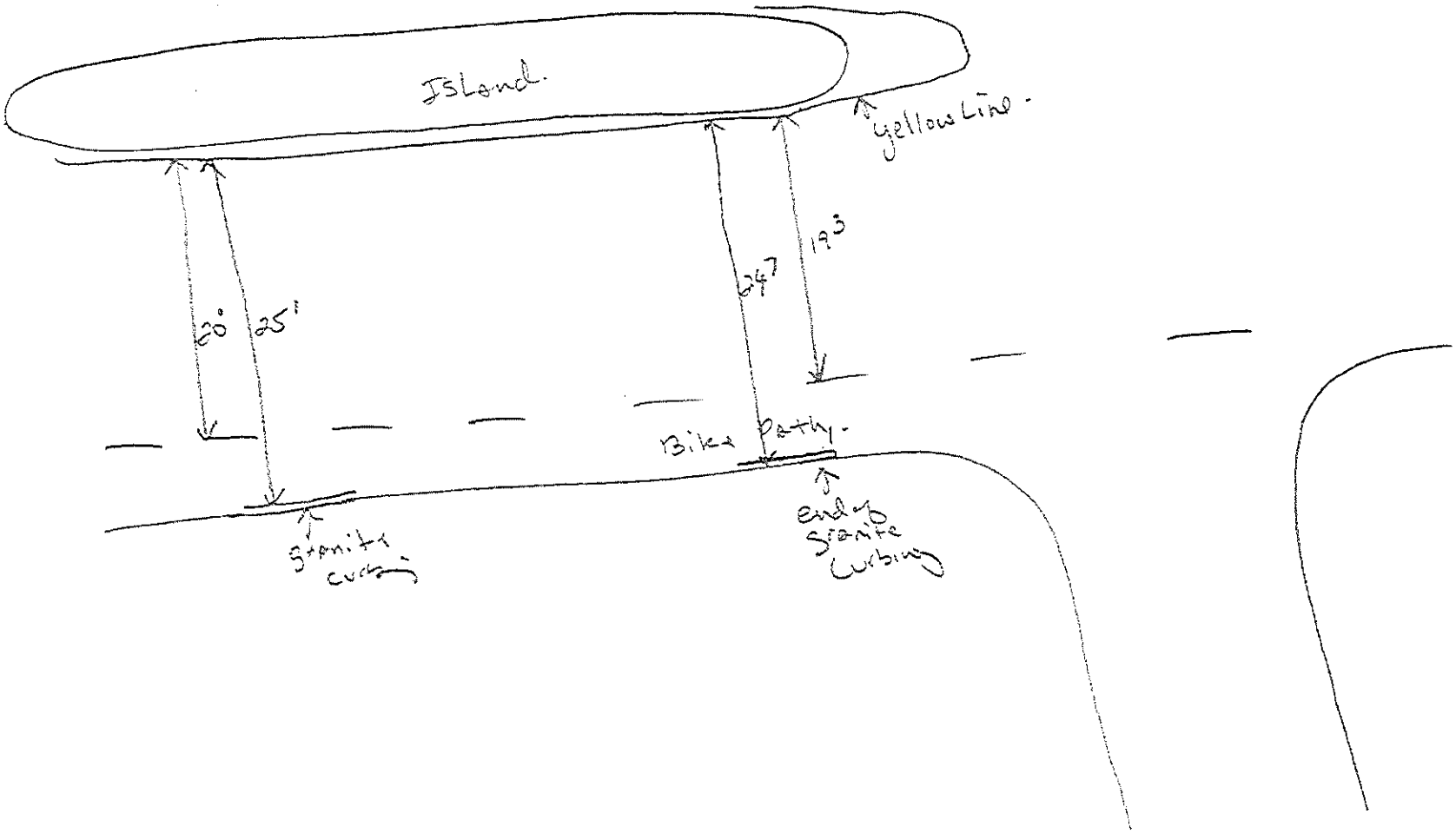
RECEIVED
BOARD OF
SELECTMEN

2012 APR 20 A 9:45

April 20-12

To whom it may concern my ame is
William Crimlisk I live at 36 Creeley RD
The whole front of my house is a crosswalk.
I got a parking ticket wich I asumed was for
Parking in a crosswalk. I am 100% Disabled
Combat vet with a handicap plaque on
my windshield. I brought the ticket
to the town and they told me the ticket
was for no overnight parking I cant park
behind my house no access with a walker,
I would like a handicap spot marked in
front of my house

William Crimlisk
774 250 2068


Island.
yellow Line.
20'
25'
24'
19'
Bike Path.
granite curbing
end of granite curbing