

Traffic Safety Advisory Committee
October 21, 2013
Minutes

Present: Gil Archambault – Chairman
 Ricky Riendeau – Vice Chairman, DPW Director
 Gary Daniels – Board of Selectmen Representative
 Michael Viola – Police Chief
 Richard Tortorelli – Retired Fire Chief
 Dave Wheeler – Former Executive Councilor
 Bill Parker – Director of Community Development

Secretary: Ellen Works

1. Roll Call vote required by the BOS.
2. Approval of Minutes from April 1, 2013 A motion to approve the minutes was made by R. Riendeau and seconded by D. Wheeler. All in favor.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

3. Official Request from the BOS to review and make recommendations regarding the safety concerns of the Phillips Way and Prospect Street Area.
 - a. Bill Parker recused himself from the Committee for this discussion as he has lived on Webster Street for 24 years and did not want there to be any question of bias from the Board.
 - b. Before officially starting the meeting at 4:00 pm, Gary Daniels asked Bill Parker to provide an overview to committee members on the chronological order of events surrounding Phillips Way and Prospect Street. Bill Parker then chronologically laid out the events beginning in August 2000 through the current status.
 - c. Gary Daniels requested the Chief report on the accidents in the area, which the Chief provided. Each member was given a copy of the report.
 - d. Gary Daniels shared the grades of the roads in question and other steep grades in town. Each member was given a copy of the report.
 - e. The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm. Introduction was made of all of the Board members.

- f. Chairman Archambault thanked everyone for their attendance and cautioned the assembly that the Traffic Safety Committee is an advisory board only to make safety recommendations to the Board of Selectmen and any decisions would be made by the Board of Selectmen.
- g. Janice Tremblay of 14 Gerry's Way presented a petition to support the request from the Board of Ledgewood Owners to change the direction on Phillip's Way with 94 signatures from residents.
- h. There were many speakers from both Ledgewood and Prospect Street. The Ledgewood residents were in favor of changing the direction of Phillips Way due to the extreme congestion at the intersection of Tonella Road and Nashua Street. They also cited the large trucks parking near Nashua Street in the County Stores parking lot limiting the site line on Nashua Street. They further felt that an intelligent traffic light was necessary in the intersection, but the access to Prospect Street would help until the money was appropriated for a traffic light.
- i. A motion was made by Dave Wheeler to let everyone who wanted to speak, speak once. Then if there was time, people would be recognized for a second time. All were in favor.
- j. The Prospect Street residents felt that Prospect Street was too narrow to accommodate the added traffic from Ledgewood. There are no sidewalks past #60 and it is a residential neighborhood with many children playing and pedestrians. There is also a sharp turn and a steep grade to contend with in the winter.
- k. Joanne Laychak of 59 Prospect Street also presented a petition from the Prospect Street residents requesting there be no decision to reverse the traffic pattern on Phillips Way. There were also concerns with a proposed new development between South Street and Prospect Street which has a proposed exit onto Prospect Street.
- l. All agreed that a decision needs to be in reference to this issue. Celeste Barr noted that there is a study that was done by CLD of the area. The plans are located at the Town Hall for viewing. This may be the time to act upon them.
- m. The Board was very appreciative of the concerned citizens and their views on the subject at hand. All opinions will be taken under advisement.
- n. Mr. Urda asked what the next step was. Chairman Archambault replied that the committee would get together to discuss the outcome of the meeting and collaborate to make recommendations to the Selectmen.

- o. Selectman Daniels stated that the Board of Selectmen would discuss the issue at a regular meeting upon receiving the recommendations from the Traffic Safety Committee. It would be posted in the Board of Selectmen's Agenda.

4. Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Amended: November 15, 2013 @1400

This meeting was not posted as required. All testimony reflected here will be entered as testimony to the meeting scheduled for 11/18/2013.