

Traffic Roadway Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2018

Committee Members Present: DPW Director Ray Tattersall, Police Chief Dan Hanavan, Selectman Chairman Larry Gomez and Fire Chief John Schilling

Town Resident: Christine Redfield

Meeting Called to Order by Ray Tattersall at 3pm

Next Meeting: Next meeting date to be set as needed

Approval of meeting minutes:

Motioned made by Chief Hanavan to accept, Larry seconded, Larry, Ray and Dan votes yes, Chief Schilling abstained

Request:

Add stop sign at Spring and William St. intersection:

Ray recognized Christine Redfield as the requester; Christine spoke to the dangers of the pedestrians not being seen by drivers coming down to the intersection. This is the only William Street intersection without a stop sign. Drivers take the corner on to W. William too fast to make be able to stop if someone is trying looking to cross.

Christine also has concerns about the VTA busses taking the corner and driving on her property to make the turn. She thought there might have been a stop sign which Chief Schilling confirmed that there had been in the past.

There is one spot at the beginning of W. William that seems to cause issue with the corner, Larry mentioned the AA meeting parking along the area as well outside the one parking spot. Ray mentioned that he remembered there being two spots previously at the beginning of W. William which everyone else confirmed. Christine said she thinks the corner is a problem and people come close to hitting the hydrant, Chief Schilling agrees that there is excessive speed down Spring Street.

Chief Schilling made a motion to recommend there be a Stop sign at the Spring Street and William Street intersection seconded by Larry Gomez. No discussion, Vote to recommend to the Selectman, all in favor.

The committee discussed removing the parking spot on W. William, Larry made a motion to remove the parking spot and Chief Hanavan seconded. Discussion: Chief Schilling thought there was a need for the spot to remain due to all the traffic flow, the committee decided to wait and see how the Stop sign may change the vehicles high speed taking the corner. Larry suggested sending the VTA a letter from the Selectman's office to discuss using a smaller bus. Vote to recommend to the Selectman all opposed.

Larry asked about our committee numbers, Chief Schilling said it is an even number. The committee thought it would be a great idea to ask Christine to join the committee as a Member at Large. Ray will put it on the Selectman's agenda for Jan. 23, 2018.

Add Stop Sign at Duhnam Ave and Rice Street:

Resident Jimmy Marshall asked to have one installed, the committee noticed that it is a T- intersection and should have one already. Chief Schilling moved to add the sign and Chief Hanavan seconded, Discussion, Larry says this should not have to come to the Selectman all agreed. Vote all in favor.

Request to post 20MPH sign Look Street from State Road

Ray informed the committee the owners of The Look in requested through the Police Department that we post a 20MPH sign. Chief Hanavan confirmed that the speed limit in the area is 30mph but Chief Schilling feels it's possible but not probable that someone could go very fast up the hill and that there is a stop sign once the driver gets to the top of the hill. Ray felt that the noise of climbing the hill sounds as though cars are going faster, Chief Schilling recommended we take no action Chief Hanavan seconded, all said yes.

Add speed Limit sign on Causeway

Ray said this was requested by Shirley Kennedy and suggested it would be a 30MPH sign, Larry said the ones he saw along State Road area 20MPH sign. Larry also suggested we would need a sign on each side, Chief Schilling suggest that it may be difficult for a proper sign location, Ray will do research on possible locations and will report back to the committee.

Add Loading zone at bottom of Spring St. onto Main St.

Ray mentioned that there are a lot of delivery trucks parking in front of peoples driveways, Chief Schilling informed the committee that the sidewalk was cut back when the fire station moved to its new location. Chief Schilling feels by putting a loading zone in that area could cause problems when responding with emergency apparatus. Larry made a motion to take no action all voted yes.

Change Hotel Parking Only to Loading Zone on Main St.

It was brought to the Town Hall's attention that this should be a loading zone, Ray made a recommendation we make this a dual use spot 6am-9am Loading Zone then 9am on it would become 5 min. Hotel drop off only. Chief Hanavan thought that was a good resolution, Ray made the motion to recommend 6am to 9am loading zone and 9am on 5 min. Hotel drop off only, Chief Schilling 2nd all in favor.

Safety Concerns:

Take into discussion Look St. onto State Road concerns

Ray said he was asked to have the committee discuss potential traffic pattern changes for this area. Chief Hanavan thinks it is an issue with car entering State Road from Look Street and visibility is limited looking to the right up State Road because of wall adjacent to the stop sign. It is a danger to pedestrians as well when cars creep out to see traffic coming down state Road. Chief Schilling feels it relieves traffic when trying to get to Edgartown - Vineyard Haven Road, he feels that not allowing traffic down Look Street onto state road may congest other areas onto State Road. Chief Schilling's personal experience is that Look Street is better for getting into traffic rather than Martin Road, Larry feels you have to drive aggressively to get through the Look Street State Road intersection. Chief Schilling asked Chief Hanavan about accident history in the area; Chief Hanavan suggests it is turning left off of Edgartown – Vineyard Haven Road onto State Road, Ray suggests speed is a factor at this intersection.

Ray suggested no right turn at the bottom of Look Street, or making it one way up or down.

Ray said he will check with study with the MVC about a traffic study; Chief schilling remembers studies being done. Ray said he will reach out to the MVC to see if any studies have been done.

Chief Hanavan suggested making one way up after school gets out until Labor Day to alleviate traffic entering State Road from Look Street, Larry thinks it will be hard for people to get used to it.

Chief Schilling discussed the different options the committee discussed for the intersection, which are No Right Turn at the bottom of Look Street, seasonal one way flow, permanent one way flow. Ray said he will reach out to the MVC for support with this issue.

Add crosswalk from Campground to Bus stop

Ray recommended adding the crosswalk as this bus stop it has frequent use and he has plans to pave the bus pull off. Larry moved to recommend to the Selectman, Chief Hanavan 2nd the motion, Chief Schilling commented on the ability to keep traffic flowing by having a paved pull off for the busses, all in favor.

Ray inform the committee he was asked by officer Rogers to add speed limit signs along west Spring Street to remind drivers of the speed limit throughout the roadway.

Motion to adjourn Larry Gomez, second Chief Hanavan all in favor.