

MINUTES OF TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMISSION

February 16, 2017

2ND FLOOR COMMITTEE OF WHOLE ROOM IN VILLAGE HALL 20 S. ARDMORE AVE, VILLA PARK ILLINOIS

Chairman J. Pienkos called the meeting to order at 8:07 p.m.

PRESENT: J. Pienkos, Karen Timmerman, Pamela Hoehl, Carl Timmerman

ABSENT: Jack Cuthbertson, Darren Kling, Kevin Meeker

EX-OFFICIO PRESENT: Vassili Voskresenski, Sgt. Tim Walsh **EX-OFFICIO ABSENT:** Jeremie Lukowicz
VILLAGE BOARD LIAISON PRESENT: Robert Wagner **VILLAGE BOARD LIAISON ABSENT:** None
COMMISSION SECRETARY PRESENT: Elizabeth Cardenas

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Resident Marie Geishecker attended the meeting to express her concern for the intersection of east Elm St and Cornell Ave. There were also other neighbors who attended the meeting Bill and Laura Bowe, Ruth Vals, Paul M. Hewitt, Erica and David Dubose to express their concerns. Laura Bowe lives at 7 E Elm and stated that she constantly sees vehicles rolling right through the stop sign, they slow down but go right through it. The vehicles that are traveling West bound on Elm St almost never stop. She feels that this intersection is very dangerous and hopefully something can be done to resolve this. The train is also a block away and that is why this intersection is so busy, many of the vehicles are trying to avoid the traffic on Ardmore Ave. The commuters just want to get home. Discussion ensued. The residents believe that the evening rush hour is the worst between 4:30-5:30 pm. The gas line project started on Cornell Ave already, so there will be constructions signs everywhere. There are many children and pedestrians that cross the street at this intersection. Mrs Geishecker expressed that she was not just being overly dramatic, it's a real issue that has to be addressed. Many different busses from different schools pick up children at different times. Chairman Pienkos expressed that the evening rush hour would probably be the problem most of the time.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman J. Pienkos told the Commission that there are potential tenants to occupy the building next to Jewel Osco where the old Dupage Credit Union used to be. Jay Mann from Bright Kids Academy attended this month's Traffic and Safety meeting along with Jeff Jenner, Ann Hootman and Allison Piakett-Floyd to discuss their plans to open up a private school in the vacant building, that is on the west side of the Jewel. The school will be enrolling children ages 3-11, about 40 students. The school hours for the Bright Kids Academy will be between 9-4 pm and the daycare is from 8:00-8:15 am until 5pm Monday- Friday. The parents will be required to drop off their children at the school, there maybe 3-4 cars that will park in front of the school to drop the children off. Jewel Osco is mostly crowded after people get out of work, so the school hours would not be affected. The Bright Kids School attended the Traffic and Safety meeting to let the Commission know about the plans and to see if any question or concerns arose from the Commission. Commissioner Hoehl suggested that area was a bad area for a school because of the constant traffic coming in and out of the Jewel parking lot. No traffic study was recommended for this project. There may be a crosswalk put up either on the concrete or on the asphalt. Since the building is on private property Chairman Pienkos suggested that they discuss proper signage with Albertsons, which is the owner of the property. Ex-Officio Voskresenski stated that Public works would recommend that No Stopping, Standing Signs be put up. Parents should be pulling into parking spots to drop off their children. Discussion ensued. Commissioner C. Timmermann asked if there would be any outdoor activities and they said yes, and they will also have a 14 passenger bus to transport the children. The school will operate year round. Chairman Pienkos will check the Village Ordinance to see how much control the Commission has on private property. Ex-Officio Voskresenski will email the recommendation from the Engineering Department.

3. APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 9, 2016, OCTOBER 12, 2016

The August 9th, 2016 minutes are pending for approval from The Commission. Motion was made by Commissioner K. Timmerman, seconded by Commissioner C. Timmerman to approve the January 10th, 2016. Acclamation vote taken with all ayes.

4. OLD BUSINESS

845 TRAFFIC ROUTE FOR NORTH SCHOOL

Chairman Pienkos informed the Commission that he spoke with the Principal at North School and he is happy with the East side of the school, however the west side is the problem now. There is a bit of congestion on Harvard Ave on the West side of the school, Ardmores scenario. About 70 % of parents park and abandon their vehicles even though there are signs that say No Parking, Standing. The parents are watching their children get into the school, even though no parking and standing signs are posted. Chairman Pienkos asked Ex-Officio Walsh to look into giving warnings and then issue tickets to people who aren't obeying the signs and abandoning their vehicles. The children get out of the cars and cross between the cars. The Principal will do an experimental trial for the buses, so that they park on the South lot, even though the West lot is bigger and has more space available. There was a notice send out by the school regarding these issues. This item is still pending and will be discussed at the next meeting.

848 RAILROAD SIGHTLINE ISSUES

Ex-Officio Voskresenski said that the brush cleanup is in the hands of the Union Pacific Railroad Company. Ex-Officio Lukowicz was on the ride with the Railroad representative. Most of the brush was on the Elmhurst side we have no control of that side. Commissioner C. Timmerman suggested that this item remains open until the Union Pacific does some trimming, there was a pine tree that was really bad and it has been trimmed. The Commission would like to discuss this item with Ex-Officio Lukowicz since he went on the ride with the Union Pacific Representative. They would like to know what was discussed. This item is pending and will be discussed at the next meeting.

849 PARKING AREAS ON ARDMORE AVE

Ex-Officio Voskresenski told the Commission that the signage will say No Parking from 7-9 am. There will be a loading zone specific and designated handicap spot. Ex-Officio Voskresenski will be writing a recommendation and will look into this further. This item is pending and will be discussed at the next meeting.

850 ELM & CORNELL INTERSECTION

Ex-Officio Voskresenski said that construction is set to start on Elm and Cornell for Nicor, people tend to slow down when there is construction work going on. Chairman Pienkos looked into this issue with the Police Department. Ex-Officio Walsh stated that since 04/01/13- now there have only been 3 crashes at that intersection, out of 325 crashes only 1 was at this intersection. There have been 5 warnings and 1 ticket given at this intersection. Chairman Pienkos did not see any reason to add another stop sign at this intersection, he suggested stepping up the patrols here and installing speed signs up. The radar count will be put up, that way they can keep count of the speeds. Mrs Geishecker asked if a cross traffic doesn't stop sign can be put up, if a 4-way stop can't or a stop sign with flashing lights. Chairman Pienkos asked if patrols can be increased at this intersection when possible, if possible. Ex-Officio Walsh asked down what street do people speed the most on Elm St and Oak St. People tend to roll through the stop sign, instead of stopping. Chairman Pienkos will look at what can be done or put up. This item is pending and will be discussed at the next meeting.

5. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION AND EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Commissioner Hoehl asked about if there was a Bike Ordinance in Villa Park on bike riding on the sidewalks, there is no Ordinance. She also commented on the accident at Jackson St and Ardmores Ave. There has always been police presence at the Lufkin Pool. The people who are driving on Ardmores drive really slow because of the 25 mph speed limit, so people drive around the slow people. Commissioner K. Timmerman stated that there is a stop sign on a horse on a post on Villa Ave, when will that be fixed? There are dents on the street at Washington St and Yale Ave Ex-Officio Lukowicz will look into this. Liasion Wagner stated that the residents on Kenilworth Ave and Cornell Ave would like to request the removal of the stop sign, however no one attended the meeting. Liasion Wagner asked Chairman Pienkos if he wanted to reduce the number of Commissioners from 9 to 7 for Traffic and Safety, he could look into this. Chairman Pienkos does not want to reduce the number of Commissioners at this time, there are applicants who are interested in joining the Commission.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner C. Timmerman and seconded by Commissioner K. Timmerman. Acclamation vote taken with all ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 10:03pm.

The next meeting will be held on **TUESDAY, MARCH 14TH, 2016 at 8:00 P.M.** in the Committee of the Whole conference room of the Village Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Cardenas