

DERRY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE
Minutes for October 20, 2011



Committee Member	Present	Absent
Tom Caron, Chairman		X
Alan Côté, DPW	X	
Ed Garone, Derry Police		X
George Klauber, Derry Fire Dept.		X
Jane Simard, Derry School Dept.		X
Kathy Garafalo		X
Grant Benson Jr, V-Chair		X
Randall Chase	X	X
Albert Dimmock	X	
Mike Houghton		X
Patti Doyle (School Dept Alt)	X	
Vern Thomas (Police Alt)	X	
David Hoffman (Fire Alt)	X	
Mike Fowler (DPW Alt)		X

A monthly meeting of the Derry Highway Safety Committee was held Thursday, October 20, 2011, at the Derry Municipal Building Center. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am.

Approval of Minutes

Alan Cote made a motion to accept the September 15, 2011 as presented.

Seconded by Randy Chase.

Motion passed.

Abstained: Randy Chase, Patti Doyle, Vern Thomas

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Dick Brodeur – Requesting Speed Limit Reduction – Gulf Road

Alan Cote stated that he had performed a traffic count on Gulf Road and determined that motorists in the 85th percentile were traveling 44-45 mph on Gulf Road. He would agree that motorists are speeding but was not convinced that the speed limit should be reduced. Currently the speed limit on this road is 35 mph.

Lorinda Rausch attended the meeting to bring forward Mr. Dick Brodeur's request to have the speed limit reduced. She stated that more motorists are using Gulf Road as a cut through since Drew Road was closed for bridge repairs. She agreed that 30-35 was a reasonable speed for motorists to travel on Gulf Road but felt that motorists were going more like 50 mph.

Vern Thomas stated that the Police Department could put out a reader board and run radar to see if that will slow motorists down.

Lorinda Rausch stated that she had called the Police Department with License plate number of motorists speeding. She also offered her driveway as a reader board location, if needed.

Alan Cote made a motion to have the Police Department monitor the speeds on Gulf Road.

Seconded by Vern Thomas.

MOTION PASSED.

Paul Rakiey – Requesting School Zone signs - St Thomas Aquinas School

A letter from St. Thomas Aquinas School inquiring why there were no school zones or flashing yellow lights on the streets surrounding the school.

Randy Chase felt the streets around St Thomas Aquinas School did not have speeding issues.

Vern Thomas was not aware that the School had been having any issues but would agree that it is difficult to navigate during drop off/pick up times.

Alan Cote agreed that he didn't see a real issue. He stated that a School Zone sign could not be placed on Crystal Ave; Rollins St is short and Moody St is a one way. The drop off/pick up area for the school is in the parking lot versus being right on Rollins St.

Alan Cote made a motion to table the discussion until the November meet to allow for clarification of the request.

Seconded by Randy Chase.

MOTION PASSED

Colleen Ramsey – Reduce Speed Limit – Overledge Dr Ext.

Al Dimmock read the email aloud that was submitted by Colleen Ramsey.

Alan Cote stated that Overledge Drive Extension was a thickly settled area do to a condo development. He would endorse reducing the speed limit in that area to 30 mph.

Colleen Ramsey stated that she would also like to request a stop sign be installed at the intersection of Overledge Dr Extension and Hemlock Spring Rd. She realizes that this request had come before the Highway Safety Committee and failed but felt it was needed. She explained that cars fly down this section of road. One time a vehicle came into her yard and missed her car by 6”, another time it was her porch by a foot. Her son plays in the yard and would not want to see him get hurt. People are not reporting these accidents but just driving off. She said that she could provide the Police with at least five (5) vehicles that are always speeding through that area.

Alan Cote stated that he would not endorse a stop sign at that location but would put up “Chevron” signs to warn motorists of the upcoming curve. Stop signs are not meant to control speed.

Colleen Ramsey asked if she should contact the Police Department every time a motorists drives through her yard.

Vern Thomas felt that it was her neighbors speeding in the area based on her description and she should be talking to them as well. If she wanted to provide the Police Department with the house numbers or vehicle plate numbers he would have the Department stop by and talk with them.

Randy Chase made a motion to request that the Council consider amending the Traffic Ordinance to reduce the speed limit on Overledge Drive Extension from 35 mph to 30 mph.

Seconded by Alan Cote

Motion PASSED.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting is Thursday – November 17, 2011

Respectfully,
Sharon Trenholm, Recording Clerk