

DERRY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE
Minutes for December 20, 2012



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	
Vacant		
Grant Benson Jr, V-Chair		X
Randall Chase	X	
Albert Dimmock	X	
Mike Houghton	X	
Patti Doyle (School Dept Alt)		
Vern Thomas (Police Alt)		
David Doyle (Fire Alt)		
Mike Fowler (DPW Alt)		

A monthly meeting of the Derry Highway Safety Committee was held Thursday, December 20, 2012, at the Derry Municipal Building Center. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

Approval of Minutes

Alan Cote made a motion to accept the October 20, 2012 as amended.

Randy Chase seconded.

Motion passed. (8 – 0)

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

TF Moran - Floyd School Conversion into Apartments

Nicole Duquette from TF Moran and Eric Spofford, property owner explained their proposal to convert the Floyd school into an apartment building with efficiency, 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom apartments. Nicole explained that the brick building would remain but that they would be extending the parking lot to the rear of the property. An island will be added to the entrance and the driveway entrance slope would be reduced. They have also improved the underground stone/pipe drainage system with an infiltration trench as well along the back of the property.

Alan Cote felt the traffic count would be lower and have a minimal effect on the neighborhood. He also liked the improvements that were being proposed for the entrance.

Alan Cote made a motion to accept the plan as presented and forward a copy of the minutes to the Planning Board.

Seconded by: Albert Dimmock

MOTION: PASSED (8 – 0)

Tony Sica – Winter Parking Ban – Joseph St

Joseph Sica explained that his family has five vehicles and two trailers. They park one or two vehicles in the cul-de-sac for 9 months out of the year with no issues. But once November 15th comes around their neighbor calls the Police and their vehicle gets ticketed. He was wondering if the Committee would consider amending the parking ban to allow for motorists to park on the street when no snow or precipitation was expected. He understood and agrees that the Winter Parking Ban is necessary and had no problem with parking all of his vehicles in the driveway on nights that it was going to be snowing, etc. At the beginning of the Winter Parking Ban the Police place warning notices on the vehicles and then they leave a \$5 ticket. Would Police consider not ticketing vehicles on nights when it is not snowing?

Alan Cote stated he would be concerned with amending the Winter Parking Ban to allow parking in zones. A perfect example is Gaita Drive which is currently in the same zone and it is difficult to plow this road because it is 24' wide. Joseph Street is an exceptionally wide cul-de-sac but that is not the case on all areas throughout with in your zone. On many occasions he has had to call the Police Department to have a vehicle towed off Gaita Drive and the expense to the homeowner is greater. He was also concerned if we made some street exempt then the Police would need to carry the Ordinance with them in order to know where parking was allowed.

Joseph Sica stated that Police use discretion when they stop motorists.

Ed Garone stated that it would be difficult to customize the tickets. What happens if the homeowner didn't know it was going to snow overnight?

George Klauber felt if a neighbor called the Police Department to file a complaint it takes the discretion out of the Police Officers hands.

Albert Dimmock stated that one would have to be a weatherman to know that the weather was going to do. Often we are told that it would be a clear night and wake up in the morning with 3" of snow on the ground. How would someone handle those cases?

Alan Cote stated that he would be reluctant to modify the Winter Parking Ban. Manchester NH tows hundreds of vehicles during a storm and it costs homeowners +\$100 to get their vehicle back. The last thing the Police Department wants to do is have a vehicle towed.

Joseph Sica felt that homeowners were being punished for the few nights that it snows overnight.

George Klauber questioned if a circle were painted in the cul-de-sac could that be considered off the road and allow for overnight parking.

Alan Cote stated that the snow is placed in the center of the cul-de-sac.

George Klauber asked if lines could be painted along the outer edge of the cul-de-sac extending the driveways to allow for additional parking. This area would then become the homeowner's property to maintain.

Alan Cote felt there would be no benefit to parking in the middle of the cul-de-sac versus the side of the road. The plows would have the same concern during a snow storm.

Alan Cote made a motion to recommend that the Winter Parking Ban remain as it is.

Seconded by: Mike Houghton

George Klauber agreed with the motion but asked if the Town Council to consider painting lines to designate parking areas, in the future.

MOTION: PASSED (8-0)

OTHER BUSINESS

Kathleen Bailey from the Nutfield News was also in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am
Next Meeting is Thursday – January 17, 2013
Respectfully, Sharon Jensen