

DERRY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE
Minutes for February 16, 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
Kathy Garafalo	X	
Grant Benson Jr, V-Chair	X	
Randall Chase		X
Albert Dimmock	X	
Mike Houghton		X
Patti Doyle (School Dept Alt)	X	
Vern Thomas (Police Alt)		
David Hoffman (Fire Alt)		X
Mike Fowler (DPW Alt)		X

A monthly meeting of the Derry Highway Safety Committee was held Thursday, January 19, 2012, at the Derry Municipal Building Center. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

Approval of Minutes

Alan Dimmock made a motion to accept the January 19, 2012 as revised.

Alan Cote seconded.

Motion passed. (7 – 0 – 1)

Abstained: Patti Doyle

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Margaret Ives – North Shore Rd – Speeding Traffic

Margaret Ives emailed Alan Cote a concern on North Shore Rd for the Highway Safety Committee to review. She is requesting additional speed limit signs be posted, reflectors on the bridge, and to stripe a center line on the road.

Alan Cote went out to the site and determined that the geometry of the road and bridge were not a problem. He stated that he would be able to add reflectors to the bridge but would not add additional speed limit signs. He felt that adding speed limit signs would not slow motorists down. Seeing that there is no snow on the ground, the Highway Division could perform a traffic count and forward the results to the Police Department.

Al Dimmock stated that the most of the traffic through the area was local. It is not a major cut through.

Alan Cote stated that striping the road would need to have Council Approval and in the past the Council has not been in favor of striping low volume roads.

Ed Garone stated that he would not comment on the accident that occurred there but stated that the geometry of the road did not cause the accident.

Ed Garone made a motion to refer this to the Highway Division to install additional signage as needed.

Grant Benson Seconded.

Motion Passed (8 – 0)

Todd Connors – 33-35 West Broadway – Updated design

Todd Connors representing 33-35 West Broadway presented a revised design to eliminate the previously proposed curb cut coming onto West Broadway by deferring traffic to exit onto Maple St using the existing private ROW behind the properties. They plan to pave and widen the ROW to allow for 2-way traffic and fire access. He provided a drawing of the changes.

Al Dimmock asked who the ROW was deeded to.

Todd Connors explained that 3 properties (Derry Parks & Rec building, #35 and #33 West Broadway) have Deeded access to the ROW. However there is no mention of the ROW in the Marion Gerrish Center Deed. He is aware that the Town of Derry also hired boundary surveyor to research the ROW in question.

George Klauber questioned if Todd was aware that Marion Gerrish chains off their back parking lot over the weekends.

Alan Cote stated that the Town did a boundary survey and spent \$5,000 to allow for accessibility to the Marion Gerrish parking lot.

Ed Garone stated that having traffic exit onto Maple Street is better than the original plan that had traffic existing onto West Broadway but he felt the revised plan was not great.

Alan Cote questioned if this design eliminated any parking spaces.

Todd Connors stated that current design did not eliminate any parking spaces on Maple St.

Alan Cote asked if the Marion Gerrish patrons would be able to use this ROW as an exit as well.

Ed Garone asked if the ROW could be blocked off.

Todd Connors stated that multiple properties have deeded access to this ROW onto Maple St. He felt that Marion Gerrish patrons were currently using the ROW now.

George Klauber mentioned that Todd may want to get written approval from Marion Gerrish to allow residents to access West Broadway through their parking lot.

Alan Cote felt the plan would improve the ROW access and provide a parking lot which would eliminate parking in the middle of the ROW.

George Klauber stated that the Fire Department would probably not use the access driveway off Maple St but come in from the Marion Gerrish parking lot to fight a fire at this location.

Alan Cote stated that they are using an existing curb cut as a one way in access making a bad situation better. Upon reviewing the plan he felt the improvements were reasonable.

George Klauber felt that with the ROW improvements there would be additional traffic from the Marion Gerrish parking lot utilizing the access to Maple St.

Ed Garone asked if Todd had looked the road restriction along Maple St and possibly consider eliminating a parking space making it easier to take a right hand turn from the ROW onto Maple St.

George Klauber made a motion stating that the Committee had reviewed both plans and preferred the second plan with no curb cut onto West Broadway.

Ed Garone Seconded.

Motion Passed. (7 – 1)

Al Dimmock opposed – Would not endorse the design unless they considered eliminating a parking space on Maple St by the Opera House to allow for better traffic flow on Maple St. *The road is only 19 feet wide in that area when a car is parked in the space. Eliminating the parking space would make the street 24 feet wide.*

OTHER BUSINESS

Alan Cote – The Highway Division is replacing Stop Sign with a new brighter more reflective one. They have replaced 500 so far and have 50 more to go.

Next Meeting is Thursday – March 15, 2012

Respectfully,
Sharon Jensen

