

DERRY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE
Minutes for October 18, 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, October 18, 2012, 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 20, 2012 as amended.

Chief Garone seconded.

Motion passed. (6 – 0 - 1) Randy Chase abstained.

OLD BUSINESS

Derek LeMauk – Crosswalk Ordinance

Alan Cote felt that the Town should not have a local Ordinance that differed from the State of New Hampshire. It would be impossible to enforce.

Al Dimmock felt that the Town should be protecting the residents and felt that the regulations needed to be beefed up.

Alan Cote stated that the State has laws to that there would be basic guidelines for everyone to follow.

Chief Garone agreed that it was about the safety of the pedestrians but you don't want to create different guidelines that what the State has. It would cause confusion.

Chief Klauber felt that the Pedestrian Crosswalk signs that were place at the crosswalks downtown were helpful.

Alan Cote made a motion that the Town should continue following the State's RSA Law with regards to Pedestrian Crosswalks. (RSA 265:35)

Seconded by Randy Chase.

MOTION PASSED (6 – 1)

Richard Burns – 42 Lawrence Rd – Chevron Sign

Alan Cote went out to the site and felt there was adequate site distance and didn't warrant a chevron sign.

Alan Cote made a motion to approve the request for a Chevron Sign to be installed.

Seconded by Chief Garone

MOTION FAILED. (0-7)

NEW BUSINESS

Tim Collins – Pond View Dr @ Adams Pond Rd – Safety concern

Gerry Murphy and Tim Collins attended the meeting to discuss their safety concerns at the intersection of Pond View Dr @ Adams Pond Rd.

Tim Collins stated that he didn't want to make a big deal, but felt he had a valid concern. Vehicles are parking along the road while waiting for the bus to drop off/pick up their children. Pond View Dr has an island at the entrance making the road narrow and almost

impossible to go between the island and the parked vehicle. During the winter the situation is made worse with the snow banks. He had spoken to the Police and School Departments to see if they could have the parents' park a little further down the street to create a safer situation. With the winter season just around the corner, his short term goal would be to have the plows push the snow back to keep the intersection open. Long term he would like to request that the island be removed all together.

Alan Cote stated that another option would be to prohibit parking for the first 200ft along both sides of the road. He agreed that it did make sense to remove the island. The Highway Department could consider doing that when it does maintenance on the road. His concern was that residents may not be in favor of removing the island.

Chief Garone asked if Mr. Collins approached the School Department about relocating the bus stop up the road a ways.

Tim Collins stated that they did contact the School Department and was told that the current bus location was the safest.

Randy Chase asked Alan Cote when the road would be repaved.

Alan Cote stated that the road was approximately 25 years old and has started showing its age. Pond View Dr. is about 1,000 feet long.

Tom Caron asked how quickly the prohibited parking could be approved.

Alan Cote stated that it would need to go before the Town Council for approval. An item that we approved last month has gone to the Town Council and was approved at the most recent meeting.

Chief Garone asked how many kids are at the bus stop.

Tim Collins stated that there are usually 8-10 kids that wait for the bus there.

Gerry Murphy stated that the grammar school bus stop is located further down Pond View Dr.

Chief Klauber stated that we could suggest that the School Department relocate the High School and Middle School bus stops to that location versus at the intersection.

Grant Benson questioned if we could create a parking lot for the parents to park in.

Alan Cote stated that parents are parking along the side of the road all over Town and would not support creating a parking lot for them to park in. If it is determined that we are going to remove the island, we would want to notify the residents along the street. It would be about a one week to complete the job.

Chief Garone made a motion a three (3) part motion; 1st would be that the Highway Division remove the island on Pond View Dr; 2nd would be to request that the School Department consider relocating the High School and Middle School bus stop to the Grammar School location; and 3rd would be to request that the Town Council (Emergency Preamble) amend the Traffic Ordinance to prohibit parking for a distance of 200 feet on a northerly and southerly side of the road in an easterly direction from Adams Pond Rd.

**Randy Chase Seconded
Motion PASSED (7-0)**

Note: N12-164 – Island Removal – Beginning Nov 5th, weather permitting.

Tony Forbes – Speeding – Hampshire Dr

Mr. Forbes sent an email to the Highway Safety Committee requesting that they consider lowering the speed limit to 20-25 mph.

Alan Cote was able to do a traffic count and determined that the 85th percentile of motorists were traveling 40 mph or less and 11th percentile were traveling at speeds of 40-45 mph. Mr. Forbes has a valid concern. There are approximately 151 vehicles traveling the road daily.

Randy Chase stated that these motorists are neighbors.

Alan Cote stated that the lowest that the speed limit can be posted is 30 mph without undergoing a lengthy traffic study to prove the need. He felt it was more of an enforcement issue and would be forwarding the traffic study to the Police Department for them to review.

Highway Safety Committee referred this matter to the Police Department for their consideration. No other action taken by the Highway Safety Committee at this time.

Grant Benson – General Safety Concerns

Grant Benson went through is list of concern around Town. He felt his safety concerns could be resolved quickly and with little cost to the Town. He was asking the Committee to consider installing “Do Not Block Intersection” signs on East Broadway at the entrance to CVS and on West Broadway at the intersection of Elm St.

Alan Cote felt that these types of signs are difficult to enforce. Currently there is a “Do Not Block Intersection” sign located on Ashleigh Dr for motorists to enter Dunkin Donuts and Stratum Tire.

OTHER BUSINESS

Kathleen Bailey from the Nutfield News was also in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am

Next Meeting is Thursday – November 15, 2012

Respectfully, Sharon Jensen