

DERRY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE
Minutes for February 21, 2013



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)		
Mike Doyle (Fire Alt)		
Mike Fowler (DPW Alt)		

A monthly meeting of the Derry Highway Safety Committee was held Thursday, February 21, 2013, 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 January 17, 2013 as amended.

George Klauber seconded.

Motion passed. (6 – 0)

OLD BUSINESS

Ron Boyle – Eliminate Stop Signs - Hillside @ Jefferson / Hillside @ Beacon St.

At the January 17, 2013 Highway Safety Meeting, Mr. Boyle requested that the Committee consider eliminating the stop signs at Hillside Ave @ Jefferson St and Hillside Ave @ Beacon St.

Discussion continued.

Al Dimmock felt that both the Hillside Ave @ Jefferson St and Hillside Ave @ Beacon St could be removed.

Alan Cote agreed that the Hillside Ave @ Jefferson St stop sign could be removed seeing that there is adequate sight distance at that intersection. However, he felt the Hillside Ave @ Beacon St should remain in place.

Alan Cote made a motion to amend Chapter 150, Traffic Ordinance Article I, Section §150-10a Stop Sign by eliminating the North & South bound Stop Sign at Hillside Ave @ Jefferson St.

**Seconded by Randy Chase
MOTION – PASSED (7 – 0)**

Alan Cote made a motion to amend Chapter 150, Traffic Ordinance Article I, Section §150-10a Stop Sign by eliminating the North & South bound Stop Sign at Hillside Ave @ Beacon St.

**Seconded by Ed Garone
MOTION – FAILED (1 – 6)**

NEW BUSINESS

Mary Carnevale – Create 4-way stop at Bradford @ Edgewood and Bradford @ Briarwood.

The Committee to a moment to read the concern provided by Mrs. Carnevale requesting that a 4-way stop sign be installed on Bradford to help with blind spots and slow down traffic .

Alan Cote stated that he was not in favor of creating a 4-way stop at Bradford St @ Edgewood or Bradford St @ Briarwood. The Town uses the MUTCD guideline as

guidance when placing Stop sign in Derry. Stop signs are not meant to control traffic in an intersection.

Alan Cote made a motion to add a Stop sign at Bradford St @ Edgewood and Bradford St @ Briarwood St.

Seconded by George Klauber

MOTION – FAILED (1 – 6)

Erich Whitney – Crosswalk – South Ave @ Birch St

Mr. Whitney explained that he felt a crosswalk was needed to allow pedestrians to cross Birch St. The closest crosswalk to South Ave would be the one in front of Peabody's Funeral Home. He was aware that South Ave didn't have a crosswalk that came out to Birch St but ended approximately 20 feet from Birch St due to a retaining wall.

Alan Cote said that he would have to review the ROW in that area before he could offer any suggestions as to if the sidewalk could be extended to Birch St. He is thinking that the retaining wall is on private property which is why the existing sidewalk didn't go straight through to Birch St.

Ed Garone felt a better location for the crosswalk might be at Wilson St @ Birch St. He felt the sight distance was better from that location.

Mr. Whitney explained that the retaining wall on South Ave restricts pedestrians.

Alan Cote felt that there were limited crosswalks on Birch St because it is a busy road. More people get hit while crossing the street in crosswalks. The proposed crosswalk location is a very busy intersection and it could be tricky.

Mr. Whitney agreed that it is a tricky crossing but necessary to get to the rail trail.

Randy Chase felt that a crosswalk at South Ave @ Birch St would not be a good alignment. The crosswalk would be going into a driveway.

Ed Garone stated that the alternative crosswalk at Wilson Ave would also align with a driveway, making it a poor location.

Mr. Whitney also pointed out that there were no sidewalks currently on Wilson Ave.

Alan Cote made a motion to table this discussion till the March 21, 2013 meeting to allow for him to do further research on the ROW and location of a crosswalk.

Seconded by George Klauber

MOTION – PASSED (6 – 0 – 1) Al Dimmock abstained.

Tom Burns – 38 Birch St – Site Review (Granite State Credit Union)

Mr. Burns handed out plans showing the parking lot changes being proposed. Previously the site was used for banking and would continue with similar use. They are looking to reconfigure the parking lot, remove the family residence that was located on the neighboring property. This would create 10 new parking spaces. They would be keeping the existing exit and moving the entrance closer to Pierce Ave.

Alan Cote asked if they had considered leaving the entrance where it was.

Mr. Burns stated that many options were on the table but they felt this configuration was the best idea to add the most parking spaces close to the building.

Alan Cote felt that the current traffic pattern allowed for a smooth traffic flow. By moving the entrance closer to Pierce Ave you are making a busy intersection worse. He was not in favor of relocating the entrance.

George Klauber stated that this Committee has raised similar concerns in the original plan. He felt the “S” turn in the parking lot would allow time for motorists to see pedestrians walking to the bank.

Ed Garone felt relocating the entrance would not be good for the sight distance at Pierce Ave.

Randy Chase felt by moving the entrance closer to Pierce Ave and the location of the retaining wall motorist may miss the entrance and try to use the ATM entrance.

Alan Cote made a motion to recommend to the Planning Board that the current entrance remain where it is. The Committee was in favor of the plan provided showing the entrance relocated closer to the intersection of Pierce Ave.

**Seconded by Al Dimmock.
MOTION – PASSED (7 – 0)**

OTHER BUSINESS

Today was Al Dimmock’s last Highway Safety Meeting. The Committee would like to thank him for all his input and support that he has provided the group.

Kathleen Bailey from the Nutfield News was also in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am
Next Meeting is Thursday – March 21, 2013
Respectfully, Sharon Jensen