

DERRY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE
Minutes for March 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
Randall Chase	X	
Mike Houghton	X	
Vacant		
Vacant		
Vacant		
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, March 21, 2013, at the Derry Municipal Building Center. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

Approval of Minutes

Randy Chase made a motion to accept the February 21, 2013 as amended.

Alan Cote seconded.

Motion passed. (6 – 0- 1) Mike Houghton abstained.

OLD BUSINESS

Erich Whitney – Crosswalk – South Ave @ Birch St

Alan Cote explained the site plan for the property at the corner of South Ave @ Birch St to show the property lines. In order for the Town of Derry to install a sidewalk on South Ave private property would have to be obtained.

Randy Chase agreed that it was difficult when driving in a southerly direction to take a right onto South Ave. The road is narrow.

Alan Cote stated that the intersection is tight and trucks have difficulty making the turn onto South Ave from Birch St. The Town would need to purchase about 25 feet of land in order to adequately install a sidewalk which would allow for a crosswalk. The property owner would lose a retaining wall and parking space. He didn't feel the property owner would be in favor of that. He stated that there was no real good solution to this problem.

Eric Whitney asked if the Town could paint a line on the road.

Alan Cote stated that he would not be in favor of painting a line on the road because it would push traffic out to the center and make a narrow intersection worse. Pedestrians would have a false sense of security.

Ed Garone agreed that a painted line at that location would give a person standing a false sense of security. People should always use caution.

Erich Whitney stated that vehicles turning right out of South Ave cut off pedestrians and cyclists who were waiting to cross the street. He also looked at another possible crosswalk location at Wilson St and felt it would pose different concerns.

The Committee determined no action would be taken at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Ed Garone was asked by the Town Administrator to consider changing the 1:00 am to 5:00 am overnight parking restriction along East Broadway and West Broadway.

Alan Cote stated that he was not in favor of making exceptions to the parking ban. In the winter the parking ban makes it possible for downtown snow removal and in the summer it allows for street sweeping to take place. It would not be feasible to have the street sweeper make multiple trips. The cost would also be a factor. After 5:00 am the downtown traffic picks up again.

Ed Garone wanted to know how it would impact the Public Works Department.

Alan Cote felt it would be easier to keep the parking ban as it is currently.

OTHER BUSINESS

Kathleen Bailey from the Nutfield News was also in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 am

Next Meeting is Thursday – April 18, 2013

Respectfully, Sharon Jensen