

**VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK
BOARD OF TRAFFIC COMMISSIONERS
THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2017**

PRESENT: Chairman Myron Tannenbaum, Ed Zagajeski, David Salko, Abby Roberts, Joe Mazzullo, Brian Kerr
Vincent Keck, Fire Department Liaison
Mayor Norman Rosenblum, Board of Trustees Liaison

EXCUSED: John Figliomeni

Chairman Tannenbaum called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

Old Business

Beach Avenue and Tompkins Ave – 4 Way Stop Sign

See below under new business items two through nine.

New Business

1. Prospect Avenue and Fenimore Road Dangerous Street Crossing

Bonnie Casterella, resident, appeared. She has been living in the neighborhood for approximately fifty years. She has seen accidents happen often at this intersection. She asked that one car length of parking from each corner on Fenimore Road at Prospect Avenue be removed. She also asked that crosswalks be put in at this intersection with yellow flashing lights. She also suggested that Prospect Avenue should be a one-way street from Maple Avenue to Delancey Avenue. There are motorcycles that drive through the area. Someone is going to get killed.

Katherine Desmond, resident, has lived here for approximately forty-two years. There are many pedestrians that cross Fenimore Road at Prospect Avenue. Many of these pedestrians are Hommocks Middle School students. There are also tractor trailer drivers that go through the area at times. There are also the Orienta and Beach Point Yacht Clubs nearby. The topography of the hill makes it difficult for drivers to see oncoming traffic. There are two traffic lights in the area that she mentioned. One is at the corner of Palmer Avenue and Fenimore Road and the other is at the corner of West Boston Post Road and Fenimore Road.

Ms. Casterella mentioned that there is new housing being built in the area. There may be new hedges put in also.

Kate Dehays, resident, appeared and requested that a yellow flashing light to signal to drivers to slow down and a crosswalk for pedestrians be put in at the intersection.

Eileen Culhane, resident, appeared and mentioned that her daughter was involved in a car accident at this intersection two days ago on Tuesday, July 11th. Her daughter is thankfully okay. Mrs. Culhane mentioned that the steep hill and parking fairly close to the intersection makes it

difficult for drivers to see traffic. She also mentioned that there is a increasingly high volume of traffic in the area.

Pat Culhane, resident, appeared and mentioned that he works for a department of transportation in New York City. He mentioned that drivers coming from both directions on Fenimore Road speed up the hill. He requested a four way stop sign at the intersection or speed bumps. A blinking red light is also a possibility.

Mayor Rosenblum asked about the effectiveness of stop signs.

Eleanor Tuzzalino, resident, appeared and mentioned that a woman was killed in that area a few years ago. Ms. Tuzzalino provided the board with pictures of the intersection.

HL Duvon, resident, appeared and said that cars are parked near the intersection. He requested a pedestrian crosswalk and yield to pedestrians signs. Stop signs are another possibility. He believes that a flashing yellow light would do nothing. A flashing red light would be better as drivers are then required to come to a complete stop. Traffic comes in both directions. He also mentioned that Prospect Avenue is a cut through street for many drivers.

Julie Bonabra, resident, appeared and mentioned that she works at and walks to the Westchester Jewish Community Center on the corner of Palmer Avenue and Rockland Avenue. Since there is no crosswalk at the corner of Fenimore Road and Prospect Avenue, it can take her ten minutes to cross the street. She has lived on Highland Drive for fifteen years. There are private schools nearby that have out of area students. She thinks that crosswalks and flashing lights will help the situation.

Jim Desmond, resident, appeared and said that there is a four way stop intersection in Scarsdale where drivers are courteous. He thinks that after some time, the intersection of Fenimore Road and Prospect Avenue can be similar.

Mr. Mazzullo said a traffic control device needs to be installed at this intersection.

John Hofstetter, resident, appeared and said that there needs to be more enforcement in the area.

Mr. Mazzullo discussed diamond shaped yellow signs with flashing LED lights that are in the Town/Village of Harrison. The signs are solar powered and draw attention to the crosswalk.

Mr. Hofstetter said that are many speeders in the area that go around pedestrians unsafely. Many drivers come up Maple Avenue and cut through Prospect Avenue. He has lived there for twenty years and mentioned that there are oftentimes no police in the area.

Allison Fornichello, resident, appeared and mentioned that there is an accident approximately once a month at this intersection. In Virginia Beach, there are tiny white lights on stop signs. She thinks this is a possibility at the intersection. She also discussed the history of the stop sign under the railroad bridge at the corner of Hoyt Avenue and Fenimore Road. Many drivers did not know it was there at first but became accustomed to it later.

Eric Dehays, resident, appeared and mentioned that there are more heavy vehicles in the area. There is no sight line up Fenimore Road from West Boston Post Road. He requested that four way stop signs be installed at the intersections of Munro Avenue and Fenimore Road and Prospect Avenue and Fenimore Road. The plateau is not visible when driving up the hill.

Jeff Spalding, resident, appeared and discussed the line of sight issues. He also mentioned the Safe Routes Partnership, who will come in and make recommendations about the intersection. He also asked the board to look at the entire grid of streets and not just at one intersection.

Sara Kolbert, resident of twenty-one years, appeared. There needs to be more enforcement in the area. She requested a traffic study and said more education of the roadways is needed.

Zachary, a resident of Livingston Avenue, appeared and mentioned that traffic and weather can make this intersection especially dangerous. He has an issue with installing stop signs as they would cause accidents.

A resident appeared and mentioned that they were hit by an SUV. The corner is dark so the resident suggests illuminating the corner.

Gail Doyle, resident, appeared and mentioned that she wants to slow traffic but not affect the community that much. Removing parked cars to improve visibility seems to be a good idea, but she doesn't want to ruin the character of the neighborhood. She also suggested making Highland Drive a one-way street.

A resident of Prospect Avenue appeared and mentioned that they were almost hit by a car near this intersection. This resident suggests putting an island in the middle of the roadway on Fenimore Road at Prospect Avenue.

Lynn Sherrod, a resident of Fenimore Road, appeared and suggested installing cameras.

Lerony Lancia, resident, appeared and mentioned that there are many speeders in the area.

Mr. Kerr asked about the verification of one's speed. One resident mentioned that he sometimes obtains the speeds of drivers with his radar gun. Speeds of forty to forty-five miles per hour are common, according to this resident. There is no enforcement in this area.

Residents mentioned that police cars respond to calls by using Prospect Avenue.

Mr. Keck discussed increasing visibility with crosswalks and removing parking.

Narrowing the intersection was also discussed.

Mr. Tannenbaum told the audience that the traffic commission makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees that can either be approved or denied. Mr. Kerr mentioned how recommendations can be ignored like they are oftentimes.

Mr. Mazzullo discussed how larger stop signs can be custom ordered. The possibility of installing these in the area was discussed. Mr. Mazzullo also discussed remedying the intersection.

Removing parking on Fenimore Road at the corner of Prospect Avenue was discussed.

Mr. Mazzullo motioned to remove one parking spot on each corner on Fenimore Road at the corner of Prospect Avenue. Mr. Keck seconded the motion.

A resident approached the board and used Google satellite images on her phone to show the board that cars park very close to the intersection on Fenimore Road.

The motion will be voted on at the next meeting. Put on August agenda.

Mr. Zagajeski motioned that crosswalks be installed at all four corners of Fenimore Road and Prospect Avenue with signage with LED lights for pedestrians. Ms. Roberts seconded. All in favor with one opposed (Salko).

A resident requested that a motion be made with regards to enforcement in the area. The board can just ask the police department to increase enforcement in the area and no motion needs to be made.

Mayor Rosenblum left the meeting at 8:30 PM.

2 – 9. Corner of Tompkins Avenue and Beach Avenue

Agenda items two through nine were combined. Mr. Tannenbaum said that they have all been discussed, voted on, and are now before the trustees. Some members of the board, including Mr. Kerr, disagreed since matters like crosswalks and moving the stop line back on Tompkins Avenue at Beach Avenue were never discussed or voted on by the board.

Steve O'Rourke, resident, appeared. He noted his appearance for the record and he was told that the street light that will be installed at the corner of Tompkins Avenue and Beach Avenue will be installed soon.

Other

John Gitlitz, resident, appeared and mentioned that Beach Avenue is heavily parked up with cars that often block his narrow driveway at 124 Beach Avenue. Put on August agenda.

Zachary, resident, appeared and mentioned that when coming up the hill on Maple Avenue towards Livingston Avenue at the intersection of Prospect Avenue, there are visual obstructions that make it difficult to see. While it is easy to see the traffic coming from the right side, it is oftentimes very difficult to see the traffic coming from the left side. Put on August agenda.

10. Corner of Carroll Avenue and Lorena Street

Put on August agenda.

Minutes

1. Draft May Minutes

Put on August agenda.

2. Draft June Minutes

Put on August agenda.

Adjournment

On motion of Mr. Keck, seconded by Mr. Zagajeski, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM.
Motion passed.

Prepared (with inspiration from Anne Hohlweck) BY:
Brian Kerr