

**VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK
BOARD OF TRAFFIC COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FROM TUESDAY, JANUARY 11 2022**

PRESENT: Acting Chairman Robert Stark, Lou Young, Trustee Liaison to Traffic Commission, Commission Members Ryan Buck, Brian Williams, and Michael Star, Police Lieutenant Mark Gatta, Dan Sarnoff, Assistant Village Manager

ABSENT: Commission Members Andres Garcia and Gary Kligman

Acting Chairman Robert Stark called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

New Business

Fast Food Restaurant (CHOPT) – 1043 W Boston Post Rd

- CHOPT (new restaurant) scheduled to open late 2022 across from the High School
- NEED: Increased safety for pedestrians (students, faculty, and staff) crossing BPR to access new restaurant
- Brian Dempsey and Justin Gould, representatives from CHOPT, updated committee on crossing issues for the new restaurant set to open in fall 2022. Referred to committee by Planning.
- Traffic Analysis done by developer and a minority of pedestrians cross BPR between cross walks to access food establishments across the street. Additionally in the last 3 years there are no reported pedestrian related accidents in this area.
- Pedestrians call legally cross the street at the driveway of MHS.
- Proposed: signage to slow traffic including Speed limit Feedback Sign or a No Pedestrian Crossing sign. Requires submitting a petition to NY State.

Hawthorne Gardens

#1

- Residents Meg Yergin and Richard Litman presented on the driveway area and egress from the residential building's garage. An 83 unit coop that has a parking garage on Boston Post Road
- There is a persistent problem of vehicles blocking the garage driveway. These vehicles are associated with local business
- Residents see this as a problem and consider this dangerous as it creates blind spots when pulling out of the garage and obstruction pulling into the garage.
- Consider daylighting (painting with yellow paint) the driveway so vehicles better see not to block

#2

- Additionally, the nearby Stuart Road and Boston Post Road intersection is creating a possible safety issue. No stats on accidents available for this meeting. Specifically vehicles can park on Boston Post Road between the Garage egress and almost to the intersection of Stuart Road. These parked vehicles impede visibility as the parked

vehicles obstruct driver view from Stuart Road stop sign pulling out onto Boston Post Road.

- Consider posting NO PARKING signs to reduce the total number of spaces for vehicles to park between Coop's garage entrance and exit and Stuart Road's stop sign.
- County Executive, Mr. George Latimer joined the meeting around this time to listen and stated in general support and that he wanted to be a resource for the Traffic Commission

Crown Court- Stop Sign/Speed Bump

- No one present to discuss the need to slow traffic on Crown Court, near Knolwood Avenue
- Stop signs, as Dan Sarnoff reminds the group, do not really slow traffic.
- Dan Sarnoff, will share additional information of on speed bumps or "speed humps" as there is on-going discussion and there are no current speed bump policies at the moment.
- Dan Sarnoff stated it is a wide street and people may tend to speed and we need more information.
- Michael Stark will attempt to gain more information from the resident submitting initial email regarding the need to slow traffic.

Mamaroneck Ave at I95 Ramp – Crossing Guard

- There is not a cross guard presenting. Families and students walk to MAS would benefit with a cross walk or a guard on I95 Southbound Exit Ramp at Mamaroneck Ave.
- Seems reasonable to have a cross guard and maybe relocate an existing guard posted at Soundview Ave and Mamaroneck Ave.
- Need to increase safety and need to see how many people are walking there.
- Michael Stark will attempt to gain more information on this and PD will see if existing crossing guard can get more information or an "impression"

Light at Palmer & Rockland Ave

- Turn signal desired at Palmer and Rockland
- Significant congestion and vehicles are often times unable to make left turn onto Rockland Ave. from Southbound Palmer Ave during high school rush-hour.
- Vehicles forced to wait for yellow or red light to turn illegally or beat on coming traffic as light turns green for two way Palmer Ave traffic.
- Consider assessing cost of turn signal and assess if current light system allows for such a modification.
- Dan Sarnoff will follow up on feasibility and possible costs and will look at what the accident shows.

Old Business

1. Carroll Avenue – Traffic Signage
2. Hoyt and Mamaroneck Avenue – Pedestrian Crosswalk

3. Fenimore Road – Crosswalk
4. Tompkins Avenue/Spruce Street – Crosswalk
5. Mt. Pleasant and Stanley Avenue – Crosswalk
6. Rockland Avenue – Walk to school/Dangerous
7. Taylor’s Lane/Boston Post Road
8. Mamaroneck Community Nursery School
9. No Parking Restriction on the west side of Heathcote Avenue
10. North Barry Stop Sign

Summer 2021 Traffic Board Summary Addendum, Prepared by Traffic Commission Board Member Robert Stark

Updated Status on Prospect Avenue – regarding changing parking from one side of the street to the other side—a proposal that has failed at the Board of Trustees.

At its July 13, 2021 meeting, the Traffic Commission approved a proposal to change on-street parking from the North side of Prospect to the South side between Maple and Fenimore Avenue, after having been advised by the Village Manager that all affected Prospect Avenue residents were in favor. This proved to be an inaccurate picture of neighborhood impacts. Subsequent to the July 13, 2021 meeting, six residents of Prospect Avenue sent emails to the Traffic Commission and to the Board of Trustees opposing the parking change reporting that they thought the proposal was unnecessary and would create safety hazards. They also reported that they were provided no notice or opportunity to express their opinion at the July 13th meeting.

When the matter moved to discussion at the Board of Trustees on August 9, 2021, Robert Stark testified that the Traffic Commission had been misadvised about the neighborhood impacts. Following Mr. Stark’s comments, six residents of Prospect Avenue affected by the change addressed the Board of Trustees and vehemently opposed the change to Prospect Avenue parking.

On October 25, 2021, at a meeting of the Board of Trustees Work Session, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously not to place this on the Regular Session agenda as will be explained below. (See August 9, 2021 minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting.)

Below are Minutes from the August 9, 2021 meeting of the regular session of the Board of Trustees of August 9, 2021:

Mr. Robert Stark of Palmer Court and member of the Traffic Commissioner appeared.

He is not representing the Traffic Commission.

Mr. Stark stated that the draft minutes of their July 13 meeting have been posted but not yet approved. He read the pertinent portion on Prospect Avenue parking.

Mr. Barberio brought this issue up at their July 13 meeting and requested approval. Before approval, the Commission asked Mr. Barberio if all residents on Prospect were in favor of this change, and they were told that they have been asking for this change and did approve. He [Mr. Stark] voted to move on this after this information.

Since that meeting, six residents of Prospect Avenue emailed [the Board of Trustees and the Traffic Commission] stating how this would create safety hazards and is a bad idea.

If he [Mr. Stark]) knew then what he knows now, he would not have voted as he did.

At the Commission's next meeting, he [Mr. Stark]) will ask that members [of the Traffic Commission] reconsider their votes and hear from all residents [of Prospect Avenue] who wish to express an opinion on the issue.

Mr. Stark asked how the Board of Trustees can act on something from the Traffic Commission when minutes have not yet been approved and received by the Board.

End of Minutes from August 9, 2021 BOT meeting

The next official meeting of the Traffic Commission occurred on December 15, 2021. Due to the Pandemic, the Traffic Commission did not meet in August, September or October 2021. The Commission met in November 2021 but did not achieve a quorum.

At the December 15, 2021 meeting there was no opportunity for the Traffic Commission to reconsider the motion passed on July 13, 2021 because Mr. Stark was the only holdover from that July 13, 2021 meeting still on the Commission. At the December 15, 2021 meeting the approval of the Minutes of the July 13th meeting was tabled and not approved. The minutes of the July 13, 2021 Meeting were subsequently approved at the January 15, 2022 meeting.

Because the Traffic Commission voted on July 13, 2021 to approve a motion changing the parking from one side to the other, the BOT was allowed to hold a public hearing to determine whether to pass a law to change the parking.

At the Work Session of the BOT on October 25, 2021, the BOT considered adding the change of parking to the Regular Session Agenda. Initially, Mayor Murphy and Trustee Wenstrup strongly recommended that the change be approved. However, after considerable discussion, **the Board voted unanimously not to add it to the Regular Session Agenda.** Mayor Murphy stated that “we don’t want to start a civil war on Prospect Avenue”, that it was “not worth the effort”, and that it would only be a “marginal improvement”.

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Next Traffic Meeting – by Zoom on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Ryan Buck motioned to adjourn the meeting. Michael Stark second.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 pm

Prepared by
Ryan Buck