

**VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK
BOARD OF TRAFFIC COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MINUTES FROM TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022**

PRESENT: Chairman Brian Williams, Lou Young, Trustee Liaison to Traffic Commission, Commission Members Laura Abbate, Ryan Buck, Gary Kligman, Michael Star and Robert Stark, Police Department representative Dominic Falcone, Fire Department representative Andrew La Rocca, Dan Sarnoff, Assistant Village Manager

ABSENT: Commission Member Andres Garcia

Chairman Brian Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Brian made a motion to open the meeting, seconded by Ryan and unanimously approved.

Both and Ryan suggested that we limit everyone's time to speak so that more people have an opportunity to address the Commission. Brian recommended that we allot a maximum of five (5) minutes for each speaker. Dan will notify the speaker after two minutes has elapsed so they know their time is halfway up.

New Business Items Discussed

Mt. Pleasant and Stanley Avenue

- Dawn spoke about Stanley Avenue and Mt. Pleasant. She is a resident at the Sweetwater Apartments on Stanley and was speaking on behalf of other residents in the building as well as herself.
- She stated that due to limited visibility issues, making turns from Stanley on to Mt. Pleasant, both right and left turns, are extremely dangerous. Her daughter was recently in a car accident at that intersection and the vehicle was totaled,
- She requested that two parking spaces on Mt. Pleasant next to the Sweetwater building heading up Mt. Pleasant and one parking space on Mt. Pleasant in front of the barbershop be removed.
- It was agreed that 90% of the problem is the result of visibility issues from parked vehicles on Mt. Pleasant.
- Larry Rutkovsky from Sweetwater also spoke. He confirmed visibility issues and speeding issues of vehicles going up and down Mt. Pleasant. He said the problem is worse during rain, snow and at night.
- He also stated there are other issues generated from large delivery vehicles like mail trucks and Amazon trucks that park on Stanley in front of the Sweetwater building.
- Per Dan, Mt. Pleasant is a county road and the VOM would need county permission to make changes to the roadway. However, the VOM can make administrative parking restrictions on Mt. Pleasant.
- Per Dan, although there is 20 MPH speed limit sign on Mt. Pleasant, that is an "advisory" sign and is not enforceable by VOM PD.
- Brian requested that Lt. Falcone provide the Traffic Commission with traffic and accident data.

- The goal of the Traffic Commission is to improve visibility for vehicles coming out of Stanley and to slow down traffic on Mt. Pleasant.

1511 Mamaroneck Avenue – Resident Cannot See Oncoming Traffic When Exiting Driveway

- Mrs. Jennifer Jaeger spoke about the problem of exiting the driveway at her home located at 1511 Mamaroneck Avenue.
- The problem is the lack of visibility due to cars parked too close to her driveway and the speed of cars going north on Mamaroneck Avenue.
- As per Dan Sarnoff, the request to remove parking has to be approved by the BOT.
- The Commission did not reach a consensus resolution whether or not to remove a parking space by the owner's driveway and will continue to discuss at a subsequent meeting.

North Barry Avenue and Jefferson Avenue - request for a 4-way stop - Safety Issue of Kids

- Stefanie Russo told us about speeding on N. Barry, in both directions, and the need for safety measures due to the day care center located on Jefferson. She requested a 4-way stop at the intersection of Jefferson and N. Barry. According to Dan, there needs to be 5 or more accidents in a 12 month period before a 4-way stop can be installed. Brian requested that Lt. Falcone provide us with the crash data for that location.
- Both Dan and Brian suggested that we contact the VOM FD for their suggestions and thoughts on what can be done to improve safety at that location without creating a negative impact on the movement of the fire trucks.
- Dan suggested there may too many signs at that location which amounts to "sign pollution".
- Per Dan there is a planned project to resurface the entirety of Halstead from Mamaroneck Avenue to the Town of Harrison border.
- Per Dan the VOM submitted a grant application to the NY State DOT to redo all the sidewalks, which will include upgrading the traffic signals at the Halstead Avenue and N. Barry intersection.
- Per Dan the VOM is trying to address all the traffic and pedestrian safety issues along that corridor.

Harmon Drive – Truck Restrictions

- The problem controlling truck traffic on Harmon is that one side of Harmon begins at the TOM and the other side ends in the VOM and the truck restrictions of the two municipalities do not match. The TOM restricts trucks over 5 tons, while the VOM restricts all trucks.
- Dan will reach out to the TOM and request that their truck restriction policy match that of the VOM.
- Laura raised the issue of the eventual destination of the trucks coming down Harmon and said that their final destination is through Waverly to the Washingtonville area.
- Dan mentioned that there has been an effort to improve the signage in the VOM regarding allowable truck routes, especially in the Washingtonville area.
- There was a general discussion about traffic signs and their locations in the VOM.

- Even with truck restrictions, you still need to allow necessary and normal truck deliveries.

Rockland Avenue from Waverly to the Start of the Rockland Avenue Bridge – Safety of Kids walking to School

- Both Ryan and Robert spoke about the unsafe features at this location and that safety measures are urgently needed. They cited the lack of sidewalk, the gravel road and vehicles parked on that street.
- Ryan requested that the VOM traffic engineer look at the site and make necessary recommendations.
- Dan cited the several million dollar planned sidewalk improvement project.

Safe Streets Parking Concerns

- Brian recently attended a meeting where there was a discussion with the Safe Routes to School group. They requested that the Traffic Commission address a parking issue on Carpenter Place at Rockland Avenue near the MHS.
- The PTA and other stakeholders requested that the allowable parking times on Carpenter be changed to accommodate the drop off of high school students in the morning. The goal is that cars parked on Carpenter be removed before cars dropping off students arrive at school. The goal is to make it safer to pick up and drop off the students.
- The request is to change the no parking hours from 8:00 to 4:00 pm to 7:00 to 4:00 pm.
- Dan commented that what you really want is a “No Stopping” and a “No Standing” restriction, not just a “No Parking” restriction.
- Brian will reach out to the School Routes group to see if that is what they want done.

Brief discussion of speed bumps

Discussion about removal and replacement of a current Traffic Commission member who last attended a meeting in July 2021

- Robert asked Brian if he had an opportunity to find out the status of removing and replacing the Traffic Commission member who has not been attending our meetings.
- Brian stated that he had not done so yet and would contact Jerry, the Village Manager. Brian acknowledged that it was an important issue.
- Robert emphasized that this has been an ongoing issue and he did not understand why it has taken so long to be resolved.
- Robert stated that the VOM code provides that the Traffic Commission is allowed seven (7) commissioners. After the recent appointment of Laura, we now have seven official members but only six that attend meetings.
- At our March 2022 meeting Lou told us that if a member misses three consecutive meetings that he or she is automatically removed from the Commission. Robert then asked Lou why the person who has not attended our meetings since July of 2021 is still listed as a member of the Commission.
- Robert also asked Lou to explain if that person was removed from the Commission, as Lou said he was why the BOT hasn’t appointed a replacement. Lou responded, “Excellent question, I will inquire”.

- Robert then asked Lou when he would get back us regarding the status of a replacement. Lou responded that he “will check tomorrow and ask”.
- Robert reiterated that the BOT needs to appoint a replacement. Meetings in November 2021 and in March 2022 both had to be cancelled because we did not have quorum. Having a seventh member will reduce the likelihood of another cancellation due to lack of a quorum.
- Robert cited from the VOM Code that it is the job of the Village Manager to contact a voluntary committee member who has missed three meetings within a twelve month period and ask if that person wishes to continue as a member of the committee. If that person does not indicate that they wish to continue as a member of the committee the Village Manager removes that person from the committee. The Village Manager then notifies the BOT that a person was removed from the committee. It is then it up to the BOT to appoint a replacement.

Old Business Items Discussed

Brief discussion of the potential use and location of speed bumps

- Dan spoke about a pilot program regarding speed bumps. Dan said the summertime would be a good time to do that in preparation for the start of the school year.

Brief discussion about approving minutes

- Ryan asked Dan to confirm that the Traffic Commission members do not need to approve the minutes. Dan stated that the Commission is under no obligation to approve minutes; Draft Minutes are automatically filed for the record with the clerk.

Brian discussed some Old Business items

- Brian said he would go through the Old Business items to determine which ones can be removed from the Old Business agenda.
- He cited the Mamaroneck Avenue I 95 exit and said that that was just not going to happen.
- He also raised the subject of the request for a speed bump at Knollwood. We are still waiting on accident data at that location and the feasibility of using speed bumps.

Old Business Items Not Discussed

- Mamaroneck Avenue Bridge
- Fenimore Road
- Mamaroneck Avenue School and The French American School – Traffic at Dismissal
- South Barry Avenue and Guion Drive – No Parking Signs
- West Street - Stop Sign
- Claflin Avenue – No Stopping
- Hawthorne Gardens
- Light at Palmer & Rockland Ave
- Tompkins Avenue/Spruce Street – Crosswalk

- Taylor's Lane/Boston Post Road
- Mamaroneck Community Nursery School
- North Barry Stop Sign

At 8:30 pm Brian made a motion to close the meeting and it was seconded by Robert. The motion was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next Traffic Meeting – in person on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Prepared by
Robert Stark

Respectfully Submitted by Clerk-Treasurer
Agostino Fusco