

# MT. LEBANON TRAFFIC BOARD

Meeting Date: April 3, 2013

Members Present: Ms. Brown, Ms. Meub, Mr. Adams, Mr. Byrne, Ms. West, Mr. Cooley

Staff Present: Officer Shell, Ms. Jampole, Ms. Kostelich

---

Mr. Byrne opened the meeting. Roll call was taken, Mr. Gerhardt was absent.

## Agenda Item 1 – Administrative Discussion

Mr. Byrne stated that two new board members had been appointed by Commissioners to fill Mr. DiGioia and Mr. Pettula's seats. He also stated that a new chairman would need to be appointed. Ms. Meub nominated Mr. Byrne as chairman. Mr. Byrne excepted the nomination.

## Agenda Item 2 - Minutes of March 6,, 2013 Traffic Board Meeting

Motion was made to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2013 meeting. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

## Agenda Item 3 - Opening Remarks from the Chair

No additional comments.

## Agenda Item 4: Follow up Items:

- *Request for Left Turn Signal on Bower Hill Road at Carleton*  
Ms. Jampole, Trans Associates stated that turning movement counts were done at the Intersection of Bower Hill Road and Carleton Drive during the morning and evening peak periods. Trans Associates found that the turning movements onto Carleton does not meet the criteria required for a protected left turn signal. This light currently has a leader lag phase. Ms. Shaw, 181 Elatan requested that the leader lag phase be removed because there is no indication when the light for oncoming traffic turns green. Board members requested Ms. Jampole look into making this change and report to the board at the May meeting.
- *Request for No Parking signs on Atlanta Place near Summit Way*  
Ms. Jampole stated that Trans Associates performed field observations at this location and identified the existing no parking signage locations. They found that there is sufficient no parking signage along Atlanta Place at the intersection with Summit Way but due to the narrow roadway width of Summit Way between Cedar Blvd and Atlanta Place no parking should be considered. A motion was made to install three no parking signs on Summit Way, 20 feet from Atlanta and send letters advising residents of the area that no parking the entire length of Summit is being considered.
- *Arden Road Safety Measures*  
Ms. Jampole stated that after extensive review they found that most of the accidents that have occurred on Arden were operator error and there are no remedial causes of the accidents. She stated board members requested looking into striping on the roadway. Ms. Jampole stated that the roadway is only 24' wide and striping would eliminate parking on both sides and felt it would increase traffic and speeds. Mr. Byrne stated that the resident's concerns are the amount of accidents and the severity. Ms. West stated that she lives on Arden and she won't use the crosswalk because vehicles don't stop at the stop sign and she would like to see something done for the short term while further study of the area is done. Ms. Jampole stated that it is an enforcement issue. Mr. Jason Spector, 278 Morrison Drive stated they encounter the same issues on Morrison and would like to see a study done on the whole neighborhood. He asked why enforcement is an issue. Mr. Byrne stated that it is a matter of limited resources. Mr. Crist, 815 Country Club Drive asked if there were crossing guards on these streets and if not, maybe looked into that.

## Agenda Item 5: Traffic Calming Requests

- *Arden Road*

Mr. Sean Smith, 274 Arden Road agreed that the whole area should be looked at. He asked why other areas have posted speed limits below 25 mph. Mr. Byrne stated that anything posted under 25mph is not enforceable. 25mph is the minimum enforceable speed limit set by the state. Mr. Smith requested that if speed humps on one street will push traffic to the other streets than put them on all streets in the area. Ms. Jampole stated that Traffic Calming is more than just speed humps. Traffic calming is a big process and the outcome could be much better if they look at all the options. Mr. Smith asked if the next step would be to make recommendations to the Commissioners. Mr. Byrne explained that once all studies were completed the list would go to Commissioners and they would decide which to study further. Ms. Brown explained that there is not a specific time line and it depends on the neighborhood and feedback from other residents. Mr. Byrne stated they give an exact timeline, this is a new program not sure what the feedback will be, it could 6 months to a year. Mr. Spector asked if they could appeal to the Commissioners. Mrs. Brown encouraged the residents to attend the Commission meeting when it is on the agenda.

Commissioner Fraasch stated that Pennsylvania is the only state that does not allow Municipal police departments to use RADAR and there is an introduction of a bill to allow it coming out next month and she encouraged residents to contact Senator Smith in support of the bill. Mr. Dale, N. Meadowcroft Avenue asked if fines could be increased. Officer Shell stated the stated all fines are set by the state. Mr. Byrne stated that officers are out and writing tickets. Mr. Smith asked if police could park a police car on the street without an officer, to help slow down traffic. Officer Shell advised contacting Lt. McMurtrie and request a detail.

- *Newburn Drive*

Ms. Jampole stated that based on analysis conducted Trans Associates determined that Newburn met the criteria for traffic calming. Newburn Drive was assigned a point value of 12. A petition was submitted with the required signatures for Newburn. There was no further discussion on Newburn Drive.

- *Country Club Drive*

Ms. Jampole stated that Trans Associates placed the data recorders in two locations in the 800 block of Country Club Drive between Sleepy Hollow and Audubon Avenue. They recorded traffic volumes and speeds for 72 hours on Tuesday, March 19 through Thursday March 21. With the data collected Trans Associates calculated the cumulative point value for Country Club and is assigned a point value of 1. Trans Associates also collected crash volume from January 2008 to March 2013 and based on the review 9 crashes occurred during this time frame. The crash reports did not reveal any remediable patterns of accidents.

Ms. Jampole did state that the left curve warning sign and the 15mph advisory speed sign were on separate poles, she recommended that the advisory speed sign be relocated to the same pole as the left curve warning sign.

Mr. Byrne stated that there was discussion at the March meeting regarding the slope of the curve. Ms. Jampole stated that it is not exaggerated; the accidents were caused by people driving too fast. Vehicles frequently crossed over the yellow line. Mr. Byrne stated there were concerns about the rain and snow melt runoff and asked if she observed this area during these conditions. She stated it did rain but not heavy and there did not seem to be a problem. Mr. Crist of 815 Country Club stated the drainage is severe during heavy rain and frequently freezes in the winter. Board members requested that Department of Public Works look at the drainage issues on the curve on Country Club Drive. Ms. Shannon Weber of Country Club Drive stated she was very disappointed in the report. She felt 3 days was not long enough and requested that the data be collected in the 700 block also. Officer Shell stated the speed sentry is currently in the 800 block and he can move it to the 700 block. Ms. Weber also stated that there is currently a 2 way stop at Audubon and Country Club, she asked if this could be a four way stop. A motion was made to review Country Club at Audubon for a four way stop and to recommend replacement of 15 MPH sign at the curve. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Additional speed and volume data will also be collected in the 700 block of Country Club by Mt. Lebanon Police Department.

- *N. Meadowcroft Avenue*

Ms. Kerry Descalzi, 805 N. Meadowcroft Avenue stated that she first came to the board 7 years ago requesting traffic calming and she is now requesting that N. Meadowcroft be made the highest priority. She agreed that their objectives align with all the other neighborhoods. She stated that in 2007 the study data collected rated an 8 but believes that data is out dated now and conditions have gotten worse. She asked that the frequency of collisions and accidents be included in the data collection along with the fact that there are no sidewalks from Shadowlawn to McMonagale. Ms. Genna Cavanaugh of 870 N. Meadowcroft Avenue stated that she has twice seen a girl stop at the stop sign at Ridgefield which is in front of her house smoking pot. She stated that she understands that speeding may be a perception, but even at the posted speed limit the visibility is an issue and there are high volumes of traffic. She suggested allowing cars to park on both sides of the road and restrict truck traffic during the school traffic hours while kids are walking to school. Mr. Adams stated that the section between Ridgefield and McMonagle was recently studied and did not meet the criteria, but agreed that not having sidewalks is an issue. A resident stated that speeding is a problem at the curve near 886 N. Meadowcroft, vehicles speed up to catch the green light at McMonagle. He suggested allowing residents to park on the street at all times. Ms. Brown asked Ms. Jampole how she would determine the points of collection. Ms. Jampole said she would do a pre-study and make a judgment based on that. Mr. Descalzi stated that he supports the study and asked that they look at Twin Hills. He stated there used to be an island at this intersection and suggested replacing it to help slow traffic. Ms. Jampole will coordinate with residents to determine a time and place to collect data.

- *Summit Drive*

Ms. Jampole stated that based on data collected on Summit Drive they are given 3 points. Mr. Byrne asked if it would make sense to combine the Summit Drive request with Country Club. Ms. Jampole stated it would make sense but according to the program would have to be determined by the Commissioners. She stated that the speeds were comparable to Country Club.

- *Academy Avenue*

Ms. Jampole stated that based on data collected on Academy Avenue, they were given 0 points. Commissioner Fraasch stated that data should have also been collected at Old Orchard.

Ms. Kim Able, 201 Academy Avenue stated that there are two issues that she is concerned with on Academy, they are volume and speed.

Ms. Jan Loney, 227 Academy Avenue stated it is very difficult to back out of her driveway and has almost been struck numerous times.

Mr. John Williams, 120 Academy Avenue suggested a study be done to see if the speed humps that were installed on Mapleton made an impact on volume and speed. He has not seen a difference. He does not want to see additional speed humps and believes people need to use common sense.

A resident of 61 Academy Avenue state she has a common driveway and requested a hidden driveway sign.

Resident of 121 Academy Avenue stated that accidents in the Trans Report are not reflective of the true number since not all accidents are reported.

Commissioner Fraasch stated that the roadway does seem to narrow where the parking meters are installed. Ms. Jampole stated that they can reevaluate this section and look at additional safety measures.

Resident of 68 Academy stated she has a very steep driveway and it is difficult to get out of her driveway between parked cars.

A motion was made to evaluate sight lines on Academy Avenue at driveways at 60, 61 and 100 Academy Avenue for installation of hidden driveway signs and possible removal of one parking meter. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- *Morrison Drive*

Jason Spector, 278 Morrison Drive stated that younger families with school age children are moving into this neighborhood and his concern is people not stopping at stop signs and speed. He really wanted to impress on the board to look at this whole area. He feels that the volumes and speeding are just as bad on Morrison Drive as on Newburn. He has seen incidents of road rage with residents telling drivers to slow down and drivers getting angry. Mr. Spector is requesting additional stop signs or speed humps on the block between N. Meadowcroft and Cochran Road.

A motion was made to recommend that Trans Associates collect speed and volume data along with crash data on Morrison Drive and N. Meadowcroft Avenue, coordinating with residents on location of data collectors and also collect additional data at the lower end of Academy Avenue near the intersection of Old Orchard, coordinating with residents on appropriate location and collect 5 year crash data between Mapleton and Cochran. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 7: – Request for Traffic Control at Gilkeson Road and Old Gilkeson Road  
No one present to address this item.

Agenda Item 9: - Request for Yield or Stop Sign on Bethany at intersection with Somerville

Mr. Andrew Joyce, 741 Somerville Drive requested a yield or stop sign at the intersection of Bethany Drive and Somerville Drive. Ms. Jampole will determine if it is difficult to see when approaching this intersection. Board members requested Trans Associates conduct an evaluation of sight distances and collect accident history.

Agenda Item 12 – Items from the Floor

There were no additional items. Meeting adjourned at 10:00pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2013

cc: All attendees  
S. Feller  
T. Kelley  
R. Sukal