

MT. LEBANON TRAFFIC BOARD

Meeting Date: June 5, 2013

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

Staff Present: Lt. McMurtrie, Lt. White, Ms. Jampole, Ms. Kostelich

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

Agenda Item 1 – Administrative Discussion

Agenda Item 2 - Minutes of May 1, 2013 Traffic Board Meeting

Motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2013 meeting. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 3 - Opening Remarks from the Chair

No additional comments.

Agenda Item 4: Follow up Items:

- a. Report from Trans Associates on Intersections of N. Meadowcroft and Parker and North Meadowcroft and Morrison

Based on requests from residents of N. Meadowcroft Avenue, board members requested Ms. Jampole conduct sight distance studies at the following intersections on North Meadowcroft Ave: Parker, Morrison, Newburn. Ms. Jampole advised that sight distances at all three intersections are deficient. Ms. Jampole recommended the installation of four way stop signs at the intersections. The board voted to recommend approval of the installation of four way stop signs at all three intersections. Additionally, board members recommended if approval is granted that the sign poles be wrapped in high visibility tape.

- b. Report from Trans Associates on Sight Distances on Academy Avenue

Based on a request from residents on Academy Avenue for removal of on street parking spaces at 60 Academy Avenue board members requested Ms. Jampole study the area. Ms. Jampole advised that sight distance exiting the driveway of the apartment building is deficient. Ms. Jampole recommended the removal of four metered parking spaces immediately east of the 60 Academy driveway. Additionally, Ms. Jampole recommended the removal of approximately 150' of on street parking to the immediate west of the 60 Academy driveway (approximately 4-6 spaces). All spaces recommended for removal are on the North side of Academy Avenue. The board voted to recommend approval of the removal of the parking spaces identified by Ms. Jampole.

Agenda Item 5 – Request for Handicap Parking Space on Mabrick Avenue

Ms. Lucy Fitzgerald, requested the installation of a designated handicapped parking space near her father's residence at 262 Mabrick Avenue. Ms. Fitzgerald advised that her father suffers from physical and mental disabilities. He previously parked on Summit Way which was recently posted no parking based on a resident's complaint about inaccessibility to emergency vehicles due to on street parking. Her father does possess an overnight parking permit for Mabrick Avenue but can rarely find a space on the street. The board voted to recommend approval of a handicapped parking space near 262 Mabrick Avenue based upon Ms. Jampole's recommendation.

Agenda Item 6 – Request to Discuss Sight Distance and Safety Issues on Beadling Road at Cedar Blvd.

Ms. Sharon Aprea was present to discuss her concerns with the dangers of making a left turn from Beadling Road onto Cedar Blvd. She works at Markham School and travels this route daily and she stated that she is

concerned with insufficient sight distance caused by overgrown vegetation and the curve in the roadway. The board requested Ms. Jampole study the area and make recommendations for improvement.

Agenda Item 7 – Request for Removal of Parking Spaces on Washington Road North of Florence Ave

Mr. Jim Howell was present to request the removal of several parking spaces on Washington Road southbound just north of Florence Place. Mr. Howell advised that left turns onto Washington Road are prohibited but it is still difficult to make a right turn from Florence onto Washington Rd. The board requested that Ms. Jampole study the area and make a recommendation for improvement.

Agenda Item 8 – Request for No Parking on Dell Avenue Near N. Meadowcroft Avenue

Mr. Jim Howell was present to request the removal of parking on Dell Avenue near N. Meadowcroft Avenue. Mr. Howell advised that parked cars cause gridlock at the location. The board requested that Ms. Jampole study the area and make a recommendation for improvement.

Agenda Item 9 – Request for Handicap Parking Spot on Newburn Drive

Mr. Atria, 114 Newburn Drive, requested the installation of a designated handicapped parking space in front of their house at 114 Newburn Dr. He stated his wife suffers from Multiple Sclerosis and requires the use of a walker. The resident shares a driveway with an apartment building. The resident described the driveway as steep and in need of repair. The board recommended the approval of a designated handicapped parking space in front of 114 Newburn Drive.

Agenda Item 10 – Discussion on Traffic Calming Requests

Based upon a previous request from residents of N. Meadowcroft Avenue for the installation of sidewalks, Mr. Bendel advised the residents on the process for requesting sidewalk installation. Mr. Bendel advised that the traffic board is not the proper venue for their request. He advised the residents to present a petition to the commission to initiate the process.

Mr. Bob Woolridge, 893 N. Meadowcroft stated that in the time he has lived here, 4 cars have gone through his yard. There is no place to walk or run and he feels sidewalks are needed. He doesn't understand how the Municipality can deny a block party because the roads are too busy but they don't think sidewalks are needed.

Ms. Kerry Descalzi, 805 N. Meadowcroft stated she has requested sidewalks and traffic and safety studies in the past and requests have been denied. She has done research on different traffic policies across the county and feels there is a need for a policy to look at roads as multi-purpose, not just for vehicle traffic. She also stated that residents should not have to pay for sidewalks.

Ms. Elizabeth Scanlon, 723 N. Meadowcroft stated that the growth outside of Mt. Lebanon has had an impact on the number of vehicles traveling through Mt. Lebanon and using these streets as a cut through. She stated she is concerned about the cost of sidewalks and the terrain on one side of the street.

Ms. Brandenstein, 747 N. Meadowcroft thanked the board for taking their request seriously and she understands that it is a long process. She feels that the traffic has changed drastically over the years and is concerned for the children's safety. She doesn't understand how the municipality can deny them a block party permit because the road is too busy but it is ok for them to walk in the street. There are 3 handicap residents on their block who have to go in the street to get to the handicap accessible sidewalks up the street from them. She stated that there is a 4 way stop at Shadowlawn and N. Meadowcroft but drivers roll through the stop signs. She requested that a sight distance study be done at this intersection. Board members requested Ms. Jampole to do sight distance studies at the intersections of Shadowlawn and N. Meadowcroft and Kenforest and N. Meadowcroft.

A resident at 802 N. Meadowcroft stated that he supports a further study and would like to see sidewalks installed. He does not have children but sees how dangerous the area is.

Ms. Cynthia Henry, 719 N. Meadowcroft requested that board members look into the policies and information that Ms. Descalzi discussed.

Mr. Howard Stein, 756 N. Meadowcroft stated it is very frustrating that being confined to a wheelchair makes it impossible to get from his home to where there are sidewalks. He also requested that the board make a recommendation for a sight distance study and the intersections of Shadowlawn and Kenforest.

The board discussed the rankings presented by Ms. Jampole following her preliminary studies of all streets for which a traffic calming petition was submitted. Following a lengthy discussion by board members and residents, the board voted to recommend approval for the commission to authorize further study of the streets/groups of streets in the order of highest point value to lowest point value as determined by Ms. Jampole:

1. Newburn Drive (5 points)
2. North Meadowcroft Avenue (2 points)
3. Old Virginia Manor (1 point)
4. Summit Drive/Country Club Drive (1 point)

Agenda Item 11 – Items from the Floor

There were no additional items. Meeting adjourned at.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 4, 2013

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