

Traffic, Safety & Engineering Committee Meeting

July 11, 2012

Minutes

Members in Attendance: Steve May
Keith Krysa
James Seguin
David Bryant

Also in Attendance: Julia Cedillo
Brendan McLaughlin
Paul Flood
Dan McCollum

Chairman May called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. A quorum was present.

Chairman May noted that the next item on the agenda as approval of the minutes from the June 13, 2012 meeting. Mr. Seguin motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Krysa seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes for June 13, 2012 passed unanimously by a voice vote.

Chairman May requested that Village Manager provide an introduction to the evening's meeting. Ms. Cedillo announced Mr. Steve May as the new Chairman of the committee and introduced Mr. Bryant as the committee's newest member. Ms. Cedillo thanked each of them for their willingness to serve. Ms. Cedillo then provided a brief overview for the evening's meeting. Ms. Cedillo noted that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss a letter from Mr. Soucek which was dated June 5, 2012. She explained that the letter was to be included in the June 11, 2012 meeting materials, but was inadvertently left out. She stated that while the letter appears to provide some clarifying comments, the letter restated Mr. Soucek's previous request and added Dover as an additional street for the Committee's consideration. Therefore, the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the correspondence and determine whether the committee would like to give consideration of the request with regard to Dover only.

Chairman May noted that he identified two points in the letter for which he would like to provide comment. He noted that the committee understood the request and a decision was made and this was noted in the minutes of the April Meeting. He stated that the traffic counts were conducted in an effort to understand how the various streets conveyed traffic during rush hour periods to determine whether there exists evidence that traffic control measures are necessary. He reiterated that the traffic counts did not indicate the need for further study.

Chairman May reiterated that there exist federal guidelines for traffic control and those are outlined in the MUTCD. He further noted that these guidelines provide assurance that traffic

control devices are utilized and adhered to in an appropriate manner. Mr. May explained that it is doubtful the Village could legally depart from the traffic control standards set forth in the MUTCD. This is because of the Federal government's desire to have uniformity in all States so drivers don't have to react to local variations in how these devices are employed.

Chairman May then noted that the other item he would like to address in the letter related to the addition of Dover which had not been discussed before as a part of Mr. Soucek's original request. In the Chairman's opinion, the cross street of Dover is similar to what was previously considered at Catherine and Spring.

Chairman May asked whether Mr. Soucek would like to comment on his letter. Mr. Soucek noted that Woodlawn is inappropriately being used as a collector street. Mr. Soucek stated that by swapping the signs located at the various cross streets onto Woodlawn, it would slow and divert the flow of traffic. Mr. Soucek emphasized that it was a matter of safety. He stated that he observed the traffic on Woodlawn and the traffic on the street impedes children's ability to cross the street. Mr. Soucek noted that speeding traffic presents an issue of safety and that the street is not being used as a local street.

One committee member noted that in their previous discussion, the swapping of the stop signs did not meet the criteria for traffic control, and doing so would be in conflict with the MUTCD. It was further noted that stop signs should be placed in such a manner to control the lesser volume street at an intersection. Village Engineer Flood further noted that stop signs are not intended to be a speed control devices, and that there are mechanisms for such. The Engineer explained that studies show that stop signs do not slow traffic down as drivers will speed up in between stop signs to make up for lost time.

At the conclusion of the discussion Chairman May requested a motion to make a recommendation on the issue of Dover. Mr. Seguin made a motion to recommend to the Village Board that no changes to traffic control take place at Dover and Woodlawn. Mr. Krysa seconded and the motion passed with May, Krysa and Seguin voting in the affirmative. Mr. Bryant chose to abstain as he was not present for the previous discussion.

Adjournment: Mr. Bryant made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Seguin. By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Cedillo
Village Manager