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TOWN OF DEDHAM
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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MEETING MINUTES
Town Manager's Office, Town Hall
Tuesday, Oct 21, 2014 - 7 p.m.

Present: John Bethoney, Chairman
James Antonizick, Vice Chairman
Richard Schoenfeld
Newcomb Stillwell
Mark MacLean
Jason Mammone, P.E., Director of Engineering
Joseph Flanagan, Director of Public Works
Lt. Clifford Paschal, Dedham Police

Mr. Bethoney called meeting to order at 7:04 pm. He welcomed Shelly MacDonald.

Mr. Bethoney asked Mr. Mammone if a letter was given to the owner on Kiely Road, he said there was a new owner and he met and delivered a letter to the new owner of the property because the person who filled out the original application had moved.

Mr. Bethoney asked Mr. Mammone to go over his Initial Evaluation of Kiely Road. Mr. Mammone read his findings and his conclusion was that since the data did not meet the requirements of the Town's Traffic Calming Policy, that traditional traffic calming measures were not recommended.

Mr. Bethoney said he would make a call to the new owner and let them know where the committee stood on the findings. Mr. Bethoney asked if there were any questions or concerns on the evaluation of Kiely Road. Mr. Schoenfeld wanted to compliment Mr. Mammone on his extensive work he has done on the evaluation. Mr. Antonizick made a motion to find no action necessary on Kiely Road Mr. Schoenfeld seconds, all are in favor.

Mr. Bethoney said let it be noted that Mr. DelloIacono is not present tonight. Note that Mr. Paschal, Dedham Police, and Mr. Flanagan are present tonight, Mr. Bethoney asked if there were any ideas to take on about Kiley Road, if none then we will move on to the Jersey Street Re-evaluations.

Mr. Bethoney asked Jason to talk about the Jersey Street Re-evaluation.

Mr. Mammone discussed the Re-evaluation of Jersey Street in detail. He noted that the reason for the re-evaluation was that the residents were not confident in the data that was presented to them in the initial evaluation. They felt something was wrong with the data. The Committee was asked as a favor to re-confirm the data. After reading Mr. Mammone

results he concluded that there was no significant change from the initial evaluation compared to the re-evaluation and that traditional traffic calming measures were not recommended for Jersey Street. He did make a recommendation for some low-cost traffic calming measures that the neighborhood could utilize themselves if so desired. Most of the traffic was residents using the road.

Mr. Bethoney asked if there were any questions – he said to let them know of the re-evaluation and to invite them to the next meeting to discuss the results.

Mr. Antonizick had a concern about the data that was presented on Jersey St and Kiely Road. He felt the residents might look into data more and question data. Mr. Stillwell questioned the staggered parking comment and told a story about traffic observations he noticed in another State where they had staggered parking spaces on a narrow street in a residential neighborhood. He felt that they really worked from what he could see and that he would contact the Engineer in that town to discuss. Mr. Mammone acknowledged the effectiveness of staggered parking, but did not feel that striping the parking spaces would be a good idea for Dedham. Mr. Flanagan told a story about where he lived when he was a child and that they used to stagger the parking there and it slowed people down a lot. Mr. Stillwell said he felt that staggering the parking would be an effective way to slow people down. The neighbors should work together. Mr. Bethoney commented that speed bumps, lines etc. do not work – residents want police there all the time to enforce. Mr. Paschal said that he agrees with Mr. Bethoney that speed bumps do not work. Mr. Stillwell commented on the speed bumps he sees in Brookline and Mr. Mammone added to his comments that we have that kind of speed bump on Whiting Ave.

Mr. Mammone said that they should indicate that studies have shown that staggered parking works to slow people down and that for staggered parking to be effective. Vehicles need to park on the roadways and not the sidewalk.

Mr. Bethoney asked Mr. Mammone if he could talk about the next evaluation which is for Highland Street. Mr. Bethoney made a comment about Loretta coming to see him about the issues on Highland Street. He gave her potentials on what to do. Mr. Mammone read his full evaluation on Highland Street. It was concluded that Highland Street did not meet the requirements of the Town's Traffic Calming Policy and that traditional traffic calming measures for Highland Street are not recommended. Mr. Mammone did discover that there was a stopping sight distance issue with several of the curves along Highland Street. To mitigate the potential of future accidents as a result of the insufficient stopping sight distance, he recommended the installation of advanced warning signs these curves along Highland Street to make motorists aware to reduce their speed to safely negotiate the roadway.

Mr. Bethoney again thanked Mr. Mammone for the work he has put into doing his evaluations, he said in the 15 years he had been on boards he has never been brought reports with the amount of detail Mr. Mammone puts into them.

Mr. Bethoney asked if there were any questions and Mr. Schoenfeld asked Mr. Mammone about his notes on re-classing the road way. Mr. Stillwell said it was not relevant at this time and asked Mr. Mammone if that could be removed from the evaluation. Mr. Mammone had no objection and would remove that discussion from the evaluation. Mr. Stillwell like the ideas about putting up the advanced warning signs and suggested that one be put at the curve near 365 Highland Street, even though it was not recommended in the evaluation. Mr. Mammone said he does not recommend that, but

the committee could recommend doing so in their final decision on the Highland Street Traffic Request. Mr. Stillwell also commented on the timing of the light at Highland and Route 1A. He said it was not long enough for someone to get across Route 1A. He asked if it caused backups. Mr. Bethoney asked who controlled that light. Mr. Flanagan said the State controls the signals at that intersection and is currently working with the State to have the traffic signal timing re-evaluated. Mr. Stillwell asked that notes be added to the evaluation on the Highland Street Lights.

Mr. Bethoney asked if there were any more comments. Mr. Antonizick asked if there were any known issues with the parking adjacent to the Dedham Country Day playing field along Highland Street. Mr. Mammone said that the residents in the immediate area are using that area to park their cars. Mr. Antonizick asked if on any of the applications that are coming in if the police are ticketing if parking wrong on all these streets. Mr. Paschal said that residents have their own set of rules but if someone complains they usually go to the door and check on the complaint and if they are blocking sidewalks completely then they always will issue tickets. Mr. Antonizick liked the recommendation of the "Go Slow" painted on the streets and suggested that it be put into other evaluations. Mr. Mammone said that it should be something that everyone on that roadway wants because it is very hard to remove if one person does not like it after it is down.

Mr. Stillwell makes a motion to delete reference to re-classify Highland Street and add a foot note about the lights on Highland Street. Mr. Schoenfeld seconds and it is unanimous. Mr. Mammone said it should be in the recommendation and not in his notes – his notes are as they are stated but should be recommendations. Mr. Bethoney said to get the applicant a copy of the initial evaluation and invite her to come into the next meeting to discuss the results of the evaluation on Highland Street.

Mr. Bethoney asked if we could move on to Old/New Business.

Mr. Mammone said he wanted to hold on discussing any new requests because he is working on old requests.

Mr. Bethoney asked if there was anything else to discuss. Mr. Paschal commented on the amount of work that was being done by Jason.

Motion was made to adjourn, and seconded. The vote was unanimous. The meeting ended at 8:04 p.m. Next meeting will be Nov 18th at 7 pm.