

NEW BERLIN SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, January 9th, 2008 6:00 pm

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Safety Commission at their next scheduled meeting.

Call to Order: Safety Commission Chairman Paul Rozek called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

Present: Paul Rozek, Ron Schildt, Lynn Dahlvik, Joe Poshepny, Paul Repischak, and Scott Gillard.

Excused: Fred Witty, Earl Strandt, and Dr. Paul Kreutzer

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Joe Poshepny to approve the minutes from November 14th, 2007 Safety Commission meeting as read. The motion was seconded by Ron Schildt and carried unanimously.

New Business:

01 07 12 A New Berlin citizen residing on Bagpipe Ct. spoke about neighborhood concerns regarding motor vehicles speeding along Barton Rd. making unsafe conditions for pedestrians, bicyclists, and deer. The citizen stated that it is not unusual for vehicles to operate up and down Barton Rd at excessive speeds. The citizen suggested placing speed tables along Barton Rd. to slow traffic down.

Secretary Paul Repischak reported the matter as being before the Safety Commission in the past. Paul Repischak briefed the attendees on previous actions taken by the Safety Commission: On 07-12-06, the Safety Commission recommended lowering the speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph. This recommendation was carried to council and passed. The current speed limit is 30 mph. In 2007, City Engineering studied the possibility of placing speed tables along Barton Rd. to slow motor vehicle traffic. The study indicated that speed tables were not feasible due to the hilly terrain and presence of driveways in key areas.

Paul Repischak also briefed the attendees on the police department's enforcement efforts for 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007. The traffic logs indicate the speeding problem improved with police presence and enforcement over a period time.

Ron Schildt advised if the weather cooperates City Engineering could put out traffic hoses and evaluate current traffic volume and speeds.

Motion by Lynn Dahlvik to hold this item on the agenda until Engineering

can complete a more current analysis. This will also give Safety Commission members time to assess the area on their own. Ron Schildt will also be gathering traffic accident data for the area in question. Seconded by Scott Gillard and carried unanimously.

Old Business:

01 07 01 Traffic Safety at Eisenhower High School.

Paul Repischak reported that Tony Goedheer informed him that road design changes and other measures taken to improve traffic flow in and out of Eisenhower High School have improved the situation and no further action was needed by the Safety Commission. Motion by Lynn Dahlvik to remove this item from the agenda. Seconded by Scott Gillard and carried unanimously.

01 07 11 Condominium residents who live in the 13400 block of Fountain Dr. are requesting signs be posted to warn drivers of the curve in the roadway (13300 – 13500 block) and to warn drivers of the condominium entrance/exit at 13410 W. Fountain Dr.

Paul Repischak conducted a traffic study of the area and provided a copy to the Safety Commission members. The study indicated intermittent traffic operating at or below the 25 mph speed limit. No problems were observed of people having difficulty getting in or out of their driveways. Paul Repischak reviewed the traffic accident data for this area for 2006 and 2007 and found there were no traffic accidents in the area during that period of time. Other members of the Safety Commission personally assessed the area for traffic problems. Their observations were consistent with the traffic study. Motion by Lynn Dahlvik to remove this item from the agenda with notification being made to the complainant of the Safety Commissions findings. Seconded by Scott Gillard and carried unanimously.

02 07 11 Vehicles illegally operating on the shoulder (not designated for through traffic) on northbound Racine Ave from Highland Dr. to National Ave.

The Waukesha County Highway Department (WCHD) in recent months repainted the solid white fog line (with additional diagonal lines- to create a no driving zone) on the right shoulder in the problem area. WCHD also posted signs alerting drivers the shoulder is not for through traffic. The problem not only continues but apparently has gotten worse due to an increase in traffic volume caused by the road construction on I-43 and Moorland Rd.

Paul Repischak reported that the police department conducted special

traffic enforcement in this area and found numerous violations. The Safety Commission discussed the matter and determined that further signage and/or road markings probably would not improve matters. The Commission also felt placing things in or on the road (i.e. marker poles- barricades) would not be feasible in the winter. The consensus of the Commission was that the problem seems to be one best curtailed by traffic enforcement (especially during the continued road construction). Paul Repischak reported this area was added as a "Permanent Traffic Assignment." Motion by Lynn Dahlvik to remove this item from the agenda with notification being made to the complainant of the Safety Commissions findings. Seconded by Scott Gillard and carried unanimously.

Tabled Items:

Paul Rozek reported that Mayor Chiovatero appointed Dr. Paul Kruetzer to the Safety Commission, replacing Dr. Anthony Goodheer due to his retirement.

Paul Rozek reported that he will be checking with the Mayor about two vacancies on the Safety Commission; the Streets Department representative and the vacant citizen position.

Set Next Meeting Date:

Next meeting date set for February 13th, 2008 at 6:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned:

Motion by Paul Repischak to adjourn at 7:25 pm. Seconded by Scott Gillard and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lt Paul Repischak