

NEW BERLIN SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, August 8th, 2007 6:30 pm

Meeting called to order: Called to order at 6:33 pm by Lt. Paul Repischak.

Present: Joe Poshepny, Ron Schildt, Lynn Dahlvik, Paul Rozek, Paul Repischak, Fred Witty, and Tony Goedheer.

Excused: Earl Strandt and Scott Gillard

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Lynn Dahlvik and seconded by Fred Witty to accept the July 11th, 2007 minutes as read. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

01 07 01 Traffic Safety at Eisenhower High School.

Tony Goedheer reported to the commission that a number of roadway improvements to improve traffic problems have been implemented. The improvements included widening the driveways, adding lanes, channelization with islands, rearranging traffic flow, and utilization of various signage. Motion by Ron Schildt to leave this item on the agenda until the September 12th, 2007 safety commission meeting. Seconded by Fred Witty and carried unanimously.

01 07 05 Safety concerns regarding pedestrian safety in the area of the New Berlin Historic Park.

Ron Schildt advised that since the May meeting he studied the area and forwarded a proposal to Paul Barthel (Waukesha County Dept. of Public Works). The proposal involved the historic park designating a specific area on National Ave to be a crosswalk, and the placing of “pedestrian ahead” signage to the east and west of the crosswalk. He proposed two signs (on folding barricades- facing east and west) at the crosswalk that say, “State Law... Yield to ‘*Pedestrian-symbol*’ Within Crosswalk.”

Ron Schildt advised that Paul Barthel reviewed the recommendations he came up with and concurred with them. Ron Schildt will be making contact with a Historic Park representative to give his recommendations and advise them what they need (i.e. signage and permits). Motion by Ron Schildt to remove this item from the agenda. Seconded by Paul Repischak and carried unanimously.

01 07 07 Citizens concerned about traffic safety in the area Foxwood Dr., Foxwood Ct., and Park Central Blvd.

A concerned citizen was present at the meeting and spoke on the matter. The citizen provided a highlighted map to assist her in explaining the problem. The citizen advised that there are approximately 21 children, as well as adults from 18 homes in the immediate area. There will also be an increase in the number of elderly people living in the area (with the anticipated completion of the elderly housing to the west). The citizen advised that pedestrian traffic and activity in the area is a concern with the current traffic situation. The citizen said that in the area of the 13400 block many westbound vehicles begin accelerating due to a straightaway resulting in vehicles traveling above the speed limit when arriving at a curve in the roadway (in the 13600 block). The citizen said it can be difficult for vehicles to safely negotiate the curve at the posted speed limit of 25 mph. An added concern the citizen mentioned was that northbound traffic on Foxwood Dr. (coming from the area of Park Central) through a curve in the road; has difficulty seeing pedestrians walking southbound on the left side of the roadway (as required by State Law). These northbound vehicles (traveling through an undeveloped area) have difficulty seeing the developed subdivision area to the east and are right on top of it with little time to slow down and/ or change their driving.

Ron Schildt provided aerial photographs as well as other photographs to aid commission members in assessing the situation. Ron Schildt advised that the property owners were required to cut and maintain the grass. He reported that they had done so in the past two weeks.

Commission members discussed this matter and agreed upon the following steps in trying to improve the situation:

- A one-time painting of a yellow skip line through the curve in the road.
- “Curve Ahead” signage with a recommended speed placard on each end of the curve. The recommended speed will be in compliance with federal guidelines (most likely 20 mph).
- The police department will create a “traffic set” for a one month period to show a law enforcement presence in enhancing traffic safety awareness.

Motion by Paul Repischak to implement the above recommendations and hold this item on the agenda so that the situation can be monitored and assessed for improvements. Seconded by Lynn Dahlvik and carried unanimously.

New Business:

- 02 07 08 Members of the Safety Commission had inquired about by-laws as they pertain to Safety Commission members initiating agenda items. Paul Repischak informed commission members that there are no by-laws for the Safety Commission. He went over the municipal ordinance 6-9, which outlines membership; appointments; organization and meetings; and functions and duties. Commission members were advised that they can initiate agenda items provided they submit them to the Safety Commission Chairperson and/ or designee. The chairperson or designee will review the item and make final determination on what action to take regarding the item (i.e. create it as a new agenda item or refer it to the appropriate authority).
- 01 07 08 The floor was opened to accepting nominations for Safety Commission Chairperson. Paul Repischak nominated Paul Rozek. Seconded by Lynn Dahlvik. Paul Repischak asked if there were any other nominations. None were made. Motion by Tony Goedheer to close nominations. Seconded by Fred Witty. The commission voted 7 in favor and none opposed to electing Paul Rozek as Safety Commission Chairperson.

Setting Next Meeting Date:

Ron Schildt made a motion to change the regular meeting times from 6:30 pm to 6:00pm. Seconded by Fred Witty and carried unanimously.

Next Meeting Date: 09-12-07 at **6:00 pm**

Ron Schildt made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Paul Rozek. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lt Paul Repischak