

NEW BERLIN SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday March 10th, 2010 6:00 pm

New Berlin Public Safety Building

16300 W. National Ave.

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

Present: Paul Rozek, Paul Repischak, Paul Milkovich, Ron Schildt, Fred Witty, Earl Strandt, and Chuck Trevorrow. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Excused: Scott Gillard, Paul Kreutzer, Dam Meister, and Joe Poshepny

Approval of Minutes: Fred Witty made a motion to accept the September 9th, 2009 minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Paul Milkovich. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business (taken out of order)

03 10 01 Request for Parking restrictions on Forest Point Boulevard and Hunter Lane.

Two representatives from Forest Point Condominiums were in attendance and reported the following:

Residents with night parking permits park on both sides of the road causing congestion (especially during the winter with the accumulation of snow). Day-time parking congestion creates access problems for school buses and potentially emergency vehicles. Day-time parkers are also parking in front of the mailboxes and hindering postal service. The condo representatives suggested posted no-parking signs on the “inner-loop” (i.e. the even side of both Forest Point Blvd and Hunter La.).

Chuck Trevorrow reported that parked vehicles on Forest Point and Hunter La. during the winter months creates problems for snow-plowing. Trevorrow advised that the commercial snow-plows (removing snow from the lots) take up roadway space with snow due to not having anywhere to go with it. Trevorrow stated that limiting parking to one side of the road would help.

Fred Witty made a motion to post “No Parking Anytime” signs on the even side of Forest Point from approximately the 4900 block north to the north-most Hunter Lane and on Hunter Lane between the north and south intersections with Forest Point. Ron Schildt made a friendly amendment to

include posting “No Parking Anytime” signs within 15 feet of the north and south intersections of Forest Point and Hunter. The motion was seconded by Paul Milkovich and carried unanimously.

03 10 02 Request for a street light at Sunnyslope Road and Fieldpoint Drive.

Three area residents were in attendance and spoke about this problem. They reported that the lack of street light makes it difficult to see that Fieldpoint Drive is even there. They advise it is both dangerous and inconvenient for citizens and visitors.

Paul Repischak advised that many other nearby (and less busy) city streets intersecting with Sunnyslope Rd have street lights. He attested to the fact that no lighting at this particular intersection makes it difficult to see the road and is a legitimate cause for concern

Paul Rozek made a motion to hold this item on the agenda while purchasing, installation, energy, and maintenance costs could be gathered. The motion was seconded by Chuck Trevorrow and carried unanimously.

Old Business:

01 11 09 Speeding Vehicles on Elm Grove Road south of Greenfield Avenue.
Vehicles violating the traffic control signal at Elm Grove and Greenfield.

Paul Repischak reported the following regarding follow-up conducted by the Police Department:

Traffic assignment logs from the Patrol Division for the months of November and December 2009 show 8 warnings issued and 3 citations issued for speeding during those periods. Officers report that speeding did not appear to be a serious problem. Alderman Hopkins and other residents in the area reported that the police presence seemed to help the problem.

Officers on the above traffic assignments issued no warnings or citations for failure to obey the traffic signal at Elm Grove and Greenfield Ave.

Repischak checked with Brookfield Police and learned they have not had complaints regarding vehicles violating the traffic signal at Elm Grove and Greenfield Ave.

Repischak checked the Police Department files and found no incidents of illegal passing of school buses in the area for the past several years.

Repischak made a motion that the Safety Commission make no formal recommendation to council on traffic control or signage. The motion

included having the Police Department periodically return to the area for enforcement as needed. The motion also included removing this item from the agenda. The motion was seconded by Fred Witty and carried unanimously.

01 09 06 Speeding Vehicles on Lincoln Avenue near 15165 W. Lincoln Ave.

A request action statement was forwarded to council which included the when, where, and for how long the temporary speed tables should be installed on Lincoln Ave. The Common Council approved the installation as recommended.

Paul Rozek made a motion that we hold this item on the agenda until the end of their first deployment so we can get feedback on their effectiveness. Alderman Wysocki was present and agreed to send out a letter to area residents soliciting feedback. Alderman Wysocki will report back to the Safety Commission sometime in the summer 2010. The motion was seconded by Paul Milkovich and carried unanimously.

New Business:

12 09 01 Unsafe Intersection at Wilbur Drive and Pleasant View Drive.

Paul Repischak reported on the results of the traffic assignments conducted by the Patrol Division. Only 8 warnings were written in late December 2009 and early January 2010. Officers reported that speeding vehicles through the curve did not seem to be a serious problem.

The Safety Commission did not feel traffic control or added signage in the area would help the situation.

Chuck Trevorow noticed the bushes in the “vision triangle” on the southeast corner property at Wilbur and Pleasant View may be adding to the reported problem by obstructing visibility.

Chuck Trevorow made a motion to hold this item on the agenda while he attempts to work with the property owner in getting the bushes trimmed. The motion was by Fred Witty and carried unanimously.

01 10 01 Request for a Yield sign for eastbound and westbound traffic on Foxwood Drive at Highpointe Drive.

Citizens have been complaining about the increased volume of traffic through this intersection and the lack of traffic control at it. Citizens report near-miss accidents. This was a matter before the Safety Commission in 2008. We reviewed the previously collected data and discussed the latest

concerns. Paul Rozek made a motion that the Safety Commission recommend to the Common Council they install Yield signs for eastbound and westbound Foxwood Drive at Highpointe Drive. The motion was seconded by Paul Milkovich and carried unanimously.

01 10 02 Paul Repischak presented information on the *Speed Sentry* digital radar speed sign. The Safety Commission watched an informational video that showed the device's ability to gather data (year-round), help identify problem areas, prioritize where resources are most needed, and alert traffic of excessive speeds thus deterring speeding. The Police Department and Safety Commission are inundated with speeding complaints every week. The use of these devices would free up officers who currently attempt to achieve the same results by sitting in the area and gathering the data manually. These devices would be an excellent tool for the Safety Commission and Police Department to address our number one problem, speeding.

Paul Rozek made a motion to hold this item on the agenda while Ron Schildt gathers further product information and purchasing & maintenance costs. Paul Repischak will be checking with Greenfield Police Department to find out about any problems they've experienced with their units (i.e. effectiveness, susceptibility to damage, theft, or vandalism etc.). The motion was seconded by Chuck Trevorow and carried unanimously.

Tabled Items:

02 03 08 Revisit parking problems near Glen Park School athletic field.

The Safety Commission is still waiting for a report from Dr. Kreutzer on any actions the school took (or will be taking) to address this matter.

Resignation: Dan Meister resigned as citizen member of the Safety Commission. We thank him for his service to the Safety Commission. Dan was recently appointed Chief of Police at the Columbus Police Department. We congratulate him on his new position and wish him luck.

Next Meeting Date: April 14th, 2010 at 6:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned: Paul Rozek made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Fred Witty and carried unanimously.

Lt. Paul Repischak