



Amesbury

Traffic and Transportation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 19, 2015

Start: 6:30 PM at Amesbury Senior Center

Attendees: Eric Eby, Anne Ferguson, Lauren Tirone, Craig Berard. Steve Buonomo absent.

- Approval of past months minutes – Motion to approve by Anne Ferguson, seconded by Lauren Tirone, approved 4-0.
- Approval of updated Traffic and Parking Regulations- discussion of edits needed to title page to reflect City and current date. Motion to approve with edits to title page as discussed by Anne Ferguson, seconded by Craig Berard. Approved 4-0.

New Business

Request for No Parking on South Hampton Road at Amesbury Elementary School. Bruce McBrien present at the meeting, works at the school. Cars have been parking along South Hampton on the school (west) side between the driveways and blocking sight lines for vehicles and buses exiting the school driveway. A similar sight line problem exists along the adjacent ball field along South Hampton Road, where others have strung temporary No Parking signs. **Motion by Anne to create a No Parking area on the western side of South Hampton Road beginning at the north side of the southerly school driveway and running northerly 785 feet to the southerly side of the brook at the north end of the ballfield. Seconded by Lauren. Approved 4-0.**

Old Business

Request for Blind Driveway sign for 14 Kimball Road. Eric and Anne visited the site on Monday and took measurements of the sight lines approaching the driveway. The available sight distance of 150 feet is not adequate for the posted speed limit of 30 mph. There is an existing BLIND DRIVEWAY sign closer to Route 110 that is intended to warn drivers of the driveway at #14, but is too far in advance of the driveway. **Motion by Anne to have DPW relocate existing sign to a location in front of #10 Kimball Road. Seconded by Eric. Approved 4-0.**

Parking on Hanley Court next to Bella Bridal Shoppe. Lauren to research ownership of parcels, determine current ordinances on parking spaces. Report back next month.

Intersection of Elm Street, Railroad Ave. and Clark Street. Anne spoke to Annmary Connor about her letters of request. Annmary is concerned with the speed of vehicles coming down the hill inbound on Elm Street from Congress Street. Discussion of Annmary's request for blind, deaf disabled people sign to slow traffic on Elm; replacing Buses Entering Ahead sign with other warning message. Sight line to the left on Elm Street for vehicles exiting Railroad Ave is limited due to bridge railing at corner of intersection. Vehicles exiting Railroad Ave. do not know where to stop in relation to crosswalk and intersection, as there is no stop line or STOP sign and the sight line to the left is blocked by the bridge railing. **Motion by Anne to work with DPW to have Stop line and STOP sign installed on Railroad Ave approach to Elm Street intersection. Seconded by Craig. Approved 4-0.** No action taken on other requests at this time.

Request for Blind, Deaf, Disabled signage at Senior Center on Railroad Ave. See above.

Intersection of Merrimac Street and Swetts Hill. Site visit by Eric and Anne, not much can be done as sight lines are blocked by hill and retaining wall. A warning sign could possibly be installed on Merrimac Street in advance of the intersection, but it would not likely have much effect. No action taken at this time.

Lake Gardner entrance – Bruce McBrien present to discuss potential measures to improve visibility and safety of the driveway intersection with High Street. Request to move Lake Gardner sign closer to High Street so it can be seen from drivers approaching on High Street. STOP sign and stop line could be added to the driveway approach, but would not be in position for drivers to see traffic from left on High Street. Biggest problem is fence on abutter's property that blocks sight lines at driveway. Fence is comprised of chain link, fastened with hundreds of fasteners to wood boards that allow no visibility through fence. Barbed wire runs along top of fence, and trees and overgrown property behind the fence. Abutter and town don't have funds to relocate fence and clear trees. Lauren to work on determining property lines, talk to fence viewer or building inspector and report back next month. Eric will work with DPW to install better warning sign, such as yellow diamond with LAKE GARDNER ENTRANCE AHEAD on High Street in advance of the driveway, possibly at Orchard Street. Removal of fence should be pursued from several fronts; fence viewer, building inspector, DPW, Waterways committee. If fence was moved back to driveway gate, and trees cut behind it, sight lines would be adequate. Anne to research ordinance for corner clearance in city code.

Eric to invite Rob Desmarais to next meeting if needed for input.

Next meeting will be November 16, 2015.

Motion to adjourn by Anne, seconded by Lauren at 8:30. Motion passed 4-0.