

Traffic Safety Community Action Group

Monday, December 12, 2022

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Location: Litchfield Firehouse and on Zoom

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm. Members present: Jodi Tenney, Lauren Della Monica, Patricia Peiffer, Amanda Glover, Lara Hillman, Dirk Patterson, Kim Fischer, as well as Raz Alexe, Ed Fabbri and Denise Rapp.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the September 29 minutes by Lauren, seconded by Lara. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the October 24 minutes by Lauren, seconded by Lara. Motion carried.

3. 2023 Meeting Calendar

Our meetings for 2023 are tentatively set for the 4TH or last Monday each month. Jodi has shared the calendar. Motion to approve dates for 2023 made by Lauren, seconded by Lara. Motion carried.

4. Reappointments

Will take place at the next Board of Selectman meeting. Ann Combs to coordinate.

Everyone should express their interest in reappointment to Ann.

5. Safe Streets for All Grant Update

We have not heard anything yet, and we will not likely until January.

DOT asked us for our application to put on file.

6. ARPA Request Update

We asked for \$45k in funds for specific improvements to do the Wamogo flashing light and a flashing beacon by Woodruff Street at the school crosswalk. DOT approved the Woodruff Street light.

The Board of Selectman wants to give us some ARPA money for the Wamogoi light project, but they thought other towns (Goshen, Warren, and Morris) should contribute their own ARPA money (45% of \$13,000 for the sign) as they do account for 45% of the Region 20 school population. Jodi will connect with the First Selectmen of those towns on this. To be decided at the January BOS town meeting.

7. Communication Strategy

Small communications group comprised of Lauren, Patricia, and Amanda to make a plan and create a calendar for the year with a goal of presentation at our March meeting.

Sustainable Litchfield is asking to coordinate with our committee. Lara Hillman will be the Sustainable liaison as relates to Traffic applications and their “Complete Streets” program if applicable to our committee.

Public commentary on social media posts related to traffic safety this Fall reveals a misconception of the efficacy of the replacement of 2 constables with one full-time state trooper. We now have more coverage than we did previously though the public seems to view this as less coverage by replacing two bodies with one. Collecting data on Trooper’s activity and sharing it with the public may help alleviate this misconception. If the public wants to hire more troopers, they should tell the Board of Selectman as this is a budget issue voted on by the public.

This time of year, with winter weather, we want to encourage drivers to slow down. Jodi to speak with John McKenna about highlighting winter crash data.

Vests available at Town Hall for these darker days. We will do a social media post about the availability.

8. State Road Crosswalk Repainting

Raz contacted the DOT November 8th regarding repainting our state road crosswalks. The weather has turned too cold now for painting, so they hope to do so in April or May. We will follow up as soon as the weather turns warmer.

9. Updates on Pedestrian Safety Measures

The 4 signs for Clark Road have been received.

Other sign in front of Town Hall is still in use.

10. Next Steps

Continue communications strategy/plan for next year and follow up on applications for ARPA and Safe Streets grant.

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 6:55pm by Lauren Della Monica. Second by Raz Alexe.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Della Monica