

Traffic Safety Community Action Group
Monthly Meeting - Wednesday, June 14 , 2023
Time : 6:00 P.M.

Location: Litchfield Firehouse and Zoom

Attendees: Jodiann Tenney, Amanda Glover, Ed Fabbri , Lara Hillman, Dirk Patterson, Patricia Peiffer

On Zoom: Patricia Peiffer, Clifford Cooper, Kim Fischer, Raz Alexe

1. Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 6:02pm
2. Approve Minutes - Patricia approves, Lara seconds. Unanimous approval.
3. Congregating on the Green
Jodi drafted a copy of the letter. Dirk suggested the map be revised to better reflect places where people congregate. Patricia made edits to the letter. Suggests overlaying with street names and intersections. Make the letter more specific/succinct. Better define the group's mission in the letter. Specific call out to the organization. Offer suggestions on better places to congregate. Center Green is disrespectful to the monuments. Cliff + Raz not in favor of the proposal, feels like we are overreaching. If one resident complained, we should acknowledge the letter and suggest they contact the Selectmen and the Police. Kim and Dirk tend to agree with Raz and Cliff. Raz explains that it is a public right of way, we have no right to regulate that. Jodi feels that people are reaching out looking for advocacy. Committee discussed it but it is outside the scope of our committee.
4. Updates on No Parking on the Green
Lara brought to the borough board, language read to the board, borough is in agreement. It is a shoulder and not a parking area. The borough supports the committee's mission. Lara reads the statement from the Borough "The Borough has no objection to the removal of the parking and current parking signs on the North side of The Green and replace with *No Parking* signs to be ordered and replaced, if they so choose." Raz suggests an encroachment permit to replace the current signs with standard No Parking signs. Use ARPA money to pay for signs. Raz in agreement with sign pollution. Offering two options either hatchet or signs. Borough concerned with enforcement, notify police regarding enforcement. Unless there is an ordinance, signs come without fees associated. Cliff comments that there are fire lanes on the north side, are enforceable but the state doesn't take notice. If it all gets enforced, merchants have very little parking. Marketplace notified that Town Hall is open on weekends and evenings for parking. Rose Haven worked with P&Z to add additional parking.
5. Spencer Street/202/Woodruff RRFB
Problem with the beacon being on a state ROW makes it a very costly undertaking. Raz notes that costs will be upwards of \$80k without addressing ADA. Jodi suggests ARPA and Scherr-Thoss funds. Kim had drivers going by her without stopping even though she was in the street as the crossing guard. School sign is damaged, ARPA to buy new one? Raz notes that the ADA compliant idea can't follow the curblane/travel lane. Raz suggests asking the state for a different

suggestion, forward the ADA exemption to the State. Ed suggests waiting until after DOT Commissioner Garrett's town visit. Jodi to follow up with Denise to reach out to Garrett again. Lara comments that flashing lights of the beacon will help drivers, focus and pay more attention. If we get approved, the education of people to press the button and use the beacon correctly to alert motorists 300' away. Committee could prioritize educating residents. Patricia suggests red flags for crossing. Ed cites Florida beach communities that wanted RRFB removed because people were being killed because people weren't educated and tourists got a false sense of security. Raz explains that there are two sets of preliminary crosswalks before the beacon showing to yield to pedestrians. Patricia notes including removal of redundant signs on request.

6. 202/Meadow St Extension

Ed notes that both Northbound cars stopped for them as pedestrians. A car coming out of MSE thought that they were being let out by the stopped cars and nearly hit Ed and his wife as pedestrians. Plan to move the crosswalk down to the Town Hall, but no sidewalks. Raz and Patricia in favor of removing the crosswalk at MS to triangle. Lara comments that sidewalks would need to be added to reroute additional crosswalks. Contact Stephan Kruger with Cardinal? Raz makes the suggestion that Meadow Street Extension closes when there is an event in town. Take away two crosswalks, only crossing at Ollie's only. Close the extension on weekends to traffic, put up plastic barriers. DOT controls West Street traffic.

7. Police Presence in the AM

State police have meetings some mornings. Police contract starts at 7:30am with a 30 minute commute time (7-7:30). Jodi asks Denise for police presence in town to slow down traffic and deter speeding and traffic violations.

8. Crosswalk Repainting

Waiting for repaving? Patricia suggests raising the issue with the state to paint crosswalks with water-based paint. Patricia to draft letter to Denise to raise the safety issue of maintaining the crosswalks to the state and send to the DOT, consulting with Ed on draft.

9. Other Business

Removable Speed Humps - \$600 for 10' x 3' bump trial 2 sets humps on one location. Historical Society, Ollies, West Street Grill. Jodi makes motion to use ARPA funds, Dirk seconds. Unanimous.

Revisit RSA to regain focus at the next meeting. ARPA money to be allocated by 2024 for spending by December 2026. \$50k from Scherr-Thoss for traffic study, plans for those funds as well. Traffic study on ticketing data?

10. Adjourn at 7:35 Jodi motions, Lara seconds.