

Traffic Safety Community Action Group

Monday January 22, 2024

Regular Meeting

Time: 6:00 P.M

Zoom Only

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88654750969?pwd=YXRxcUtWNHBoWnZ0N3dFdG5SNTBBdz09>

Meeting ID: 886 5475 0969

Passcode: 951503

Attendees: Amanda Glover, Jodi Tenney, Paul Marcarelli, Cliff Cooper, Dirk Patterson, Patricia Peiffer, Kim Fischer, Margaret Goodhouse, Denise Raap, Lauren Sage, Ed Fabbri, Jeff Zullo

Agenda

1. Call to order at 6:05 pm.
2. Speed Cameras - State approved for use after the last meeting. Jodi gives overview of the guidelines and provides educational documents. First step is gathering data, we can dig into the RSA and identify potential locations. Need the data to be collected without the signs on. Jodi proposes the following locations to install cameras in "*stealth mode*":
 - a. In front of Center School
 - b. In front of WAMOGO (approved by State as a "School Zone ". Awaiting signatures.)
 - c. Goodhouse Rd.
 - d. Bantam Center
 - e. Maple St.
 - f. Baldwin Hill Rd.
 - g. West Street
 - h. North Lake St. / Community Field
 - i. North St.
 - j. South Street approaching the Post Office

Patricia notes for red light cameras that there need to be two crashes within a 3 year period.

Jodi suggests tabling red light cameras, as they're complicated.

Action item would be to collect data for speed cameras, Jodi solicits suggestions for other locations.

Denise suggests Bantam Center for pedestrian safety for speed to slow drivers down. Amanda suggests Maple Street. Jodi notes that someone was severely injured on Baldwin Hill Rd. Denise and Patricia note that there needs to be recorded data on crashes and violations to meet criteria.

The town will need to establish *pedestrian safety zones*.

Denise on speed limit lowering - if there's not a lot of crash data the State won't reduce speed. Jodi and Patricia suggest following up on that.

Goodhouse reduced to 30 mph

Baldwin Hill reduced to 25 mph

Jodi suggests we start with 1-3 cameras, as they need to be purchased.

Will need to be approved by town ordinance, privacy policy, action plan. These are just the beginning stages. Ticketed at speeds over 10 mph, the revenue goes back to the town to be applied to traffic safety measures.

Dirk questions the school zone and if the camera can discern between two speed limits.

Ed speaks about Stacy with Traffic Logic - February 5 coming to Litchfield. She is doing research in regards to new CT legislation to implement new camera laws. She is visiting Washington and will stop in Litchfield to make a presentation. Post mounted cameras (12-15') at \$22k, and trailer type closer to \$30k. Annual fee associated with software.

Ed also mentions that Hartford COG looks at cameras on a regional basis, maybe Torrington and Washington would be interested in reducing costs by making it a regional effort.

Patricia notes that we need to identify the needs first before getting a sales pitch when the company doesn't have an actual company office.

Jodi and Ed feel it would be a good opportunity to learn and ask questions. Patricia vehemently disagrees.

Kim inquires whether we should survey the townspeople? Jodi views it is at data collection, but is amenable to the idea of having a public hearing.

New Milford has already had a public hearing. Litchfield could do the same. Dirk suggests that we could let other towns try it and see how it goes over first.

The Board of Selectmen can talk to the State Police who will be in attendance at the meeting tomorrow.

Tomorrow's meeting is at 5:30 tomorrow regarding police presence in general.

3. Next Steps - Last week the recommendation was made for increased police presence as the budget allows. Motion to make an official recommendation from the Traffic Safety Community Action Committee made by Patricia, seconded by Margaret.

Make a recommendation for the 2024 budget to make regulations, look at guidelines, and make ordinances to include red light and speed cameras. Dirk opposes. Denise says that public hearing comes first, held by the Traffic Committee. Jodi makes recommendation we request a joint meeting with the BOS to garner input from the community. Kim seconds. Dirk abstains. No one opposes.

- Spencer Street meeting with Denise, Jodi and Raz.
- Denise: follow up with Eucolito in mid-February in a few weeks as to how the model is coming along.
- NEXT STEP: Public Hearing, Committee to verse themselves in the guidelines. Patricia suggests Jodi assigns/solicits volunteers to speak to the public's questions. Patricia and Ed to focus on the data. Patricia takes issue to Ed participating. Margaret volunteers to research the data.

Jeff Zullo disagrees with Patricia and suggests that the committee makes a motion and vote on gathering information from Traffic Logic/Stacy Noto. Ed notes that the contact info was provided by UCONN.

Jodi makes the motion to move forward with a meeting with Stacy Noto/Traffic Logic, inviting BOS. Dirk seconds. Patricia is the only one opposed. Motion passes.

Patricia found a document outlining a plan from July 2023 and requests that we audit it and use it as a plan of action to give an idea as to what we are working towards and what we have accomplished.. Jodi will put that plan on the next meeting agenda to revisit.

4. Motion made to adjourn by Cliff, Dirk seconds. Adjourn at 7:05.