



**Meeting Minutes  
December 13<sup>th</sup> 2019**

Members Present:

Lt. J. Anderson, S. Maio, W. Renault, M. Kealey, D. Benjamin, M. Luca, P. Reavis

**Item 1 – Call to Order 8:31 AM**

**Item 2 – Meeting Minutes from August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019 & November 1<sup>st</sup> 2019**

All in favor of both sets of minutes

**Item 3 – Public Participation**

Participation included resident input for Cedar St. parking restrictions & permits. Crescent St. Parking and visibility concerns

Greenwood/Mapleway area speeding and roadway improvements.

**Item 4 – Roadway & Intersection Improvements**

Greenwood Ave. resident represented a group of concerned neighbors from Mapleway neighborhood. Speeding 25 MPH zone, a lot of pedestrian traffic due to the park.

Traffic avoiding traffic light on Main & Oak by cutting up Pitman area to cut around. Requests traffic calming measures. Inquired about a road diet. Narrow the road?

Turning width much wider than other roads. Inquired about higher reveal for corner. Install 3 way stop at Pine St. Orchard Ave. and Greenwood Ave?

Install stop sign at Oak St. & Greenwood Ave.

Speeding cars/kids in and out of Mapleway Playground. Speed bumps were there?

J. Anderson noted that stop signs have requirements and cannot be installed to slow traffic.

W. Renault spoke on the need to evaluate speeding and study the area. Pedestrian enhancements are needed because of the park and DPW has identified this area as one that needs to be looked at further.

M. Kealy from VHB can look at a number of traffic calming measures that may be less expensive and not impact other issues such as parking.

J. Anderson made a motion to have VHB and DPW collectively look at this issue.



S. Maio moved and amended to look at the matter quickly.

Second by Marc Luca. All in favor.

J. Anderson presented a concern regarding Robert St. and Meriam St. intersection following his investigation of several speeding complaints and a high volume of cut-through traffic during all hours, specifically when the commuter rail stops traffic on Forrest St. Poor sightline visibility due to hill when exiting Robert St. onto Meriam St.

M. Kealy concerned about other traffic traveling south on Meriam not being able to stop in time for traffic stopped at the bottom of the incline.

J. Anderson made a motion to have VHB & DPW collectively look at this intersection further and possibly install a traffic control – moved by W. Renault second by M. Luca. All in favor.

#### **Item #5 Crescent St. cars parked on the curve near Brightview**

Resident had an incident recently where vehicle came within inches of hers.

Resident asked if there is there a standard allowance per lane. Did own measurements 23.2” At the no parking sign at Eaton St. 24’.

M. Kealy. 10’ per lane typical.

D. Benjamin pointed out Crescent St. is a main road for Fire Department heading toward the west side.

J. Anderson pointed out no reportable crashes in this area. Speed data under 30 mph limit. Data was post- Brightview but is stale at this point. He believes the parking may act as a traffic calming measure for a street that can be a cut-through. He pointed out that multi-family dwellings lined this area and parking had existed down toward Main St. however as part of the Brightview development a parking restriction was imposed and several spots were already removed.

M. Luca asked if there is any parking at Lincoln School. S. Maio pointed out it is controlled by the housing authority.

J. Anderson made a motion to have DPW and VHB look at this area post development and reevaluate. Moved by S. Maio and seconded by W. Renault. All in favor.

#### **Item 6B Cedar St. Parking restriction and resident permits.**

Several residents spoke about the restrictions, both in favor and against restrictions. Other spoke on the need for resident permits.

S. Maio pointed out that Harrington Ct. private way. Unable to restrict parking there.

Laurie Chan 101 Cedar St. Cedar & Albion St. Children’s Gathering - has two car driveway for pickup and drop off times. School has been there for 35 years. 4 staff with vehicles. Concerned for children on a busy corner. Makes parents drop off in driveway for safety reasons. Asking for a merchant type permit for her 4 staff members.

S. Maio noted this is a different neighborhood than downtown. Monday-Friday.

Cedar Gardens residents spoke about the development - which was built in 1960's before parking bylaw as we know it today. Provided current parking data. All spots being used.

M. Luca could 98 Cedar St. give up some visitor spots for residents? Residents from the audience state already in use.

J. Anderson made it clear that many of the complaints and concerns received by TAC stem around parking and restricting large developments. He pointed to the off-street parking bylaw and does not want to make exceptions to allow residents of multi-family developments to purchase individual parking permits as it would create a bad precedent considering the current and potential development in Wakefield.

He also pointed out that this particular development is unique. It was developed into condos in the 1970's. Prior to that the off-street parking by-law was enacted in 1963. At that time the off-street parking calculation was based on square footage not bedrooms as it is today. The development is in a totally residential neighborhood and the TAC is looking to essentially restrict parking not enforce a current restriction.

S. Maio inquired about visitor parking permits. The committee agreed and clarified with residents how much parking overflow Cedar Gardens currently has.

J. Anderson made a motion to restrict parking on Cedar St. to 2 hours from Albion St. to Gould Mon-Friday.

Allow residents to purchase resident parking permits.

Grant Cedar Gardens 10 association visitor passes to distribute based on the needs of their association.

Allow 4 merchant passes for the Children's Gathering so that they may continue their safety procedure of parent drop off in their driveway.

Moved by S. Maio, second by M. Kealey. All in favor.

#### **Item 6 - E, F & G Parking Restrictions**

Motion by J. Anderson to table remainder of streets to a future meeting. No input or participation at this meeting from residents of those streets.

Moved by S. Maio, seconded by W. Renault. All in favor.

#### **Item 6 -Traffic Advisory Policy Subcommittee**

W. Renault – develop a policy for consistency, application process. Similar to betterment process.

S. Maio – agrees.

J. Anderson - concerned of losing sight of real issues. Overloaded with personal requests with no neighborhood input or support.

M. Kealey – helps him to pull in ideas for traffic calming etc.

P. Reavis - sidewalk study & walking routes; brainstorm and integrate all issues together.

W. Renault – Motion to organize a policy subcommittee to consist of W. Renault, M. Kealey & J. Anderson

Moved by J. Anderson, second by S. Maio all in favor.

### **Item 7 – Traffic Rules & Orders Update**

J. Anderson – need to update rules and orders.

W. Renault – hire outside firm to update sign inventory & parking map.

M. Kealey – VHB has a program for asset management to help municipalities manage signage.

VHB to provide proposal for inventory & update.

### **Item 8 – Sign Request**

102 Foundry St. hidden driveway sign.

Denied by W. Renault, S. Maio.

### **Other items:**

S. Maio – Ask MLD to add lights to 175 North Ave. area.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM