

TOWN OF STOW  
TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of December 22, 2021 Traffic Safety Advisory Committee Meeting

Committee Members Present: Chief Michael Sallese; Fire Chief John Paul Benoit; Steven Nadeau; Jesse Steadman

Chief Sallese called the meeting to order at 1 pm.

Steve Nadeau not yet present.

**Review of Meeting Minutes**

Members reviewed the minutes of December 13, 2021.

*John Paul Benoit moved to approve the minutes of November 16 , 2021.*

*Jesse Steadman seconded.*

**VOTED: 3-0 Unanimously in favor (Chief Sallese – Yea; Chief Benoit – Yea; Jesse Steadman - Yea)**

**Member Updates**

Chief Sallese updated Committee members on a site visit he and the Superintendent of Streets made to the intersection of Harvard and Finn Roads. It was discussed that 200 feet of visual clearance is required to make a stop in a 25MPH zone, similar to the southbound approach to the intersection. However, the sight lines cannot be met in this location and Steve Nadeau believed that a stop sign and stop bar would be warranted.

Jesse Steadman noted that it appears the same firm may be performing the traffic study for the Athens Lane, Stow Acres and Masters Academy projects, which would provide continuity in the data that would help Committee members understand traffic patterns in a large part of Stow. Jesse Steadman noted that in the event that the Masters Academy wants to utilize the former entrance to the Bose campus on Old Bolton Road, he will be looking for information on the current and estimated usage of the Route 117/Hiley Brook Road intersection. Others agreed.

Steve Nadeau Arrived.

Steve Nadeau added to the Police Chief's updates regarding Harvard Road, noting that he has a template for making a stop sign recommendation to the Select Board, which requires a Public Hearing of the Select Board, as well as a two week notice requirement for the Hearing. Chief Sallese noted he will have the topic on the next agenda.

**Budget Items**

Jesse Steadman noted that he had a discussion with the Town Administrator regarding the Committee's agreement on pursuing engineering funds for the Hudson Road/Route 117 intersection. Jesse Steadman explained that the Town Administrator believed that the request would be an article that could be

submitted after the Select Board calls for articles in January. The Town Administrator noted that the delay in submitting the request may also provide time for the Town to determine whether any private investment in the effort will be possible.

#### **Town Wide 25MPH Recommendation**

Members discussed the updated draft letter prepared by the Town Planner. Chief Benoit provided feedback regarding the wording of the Traffic Rules and Orders language. It was agreed that the Committee would hold off on a final vote to submit until such time as the Assistant Planner was able to analyze the specific sections of applicable roadways that would qualify as “thickly settled.”

#### **Project Tracking Process**

Chief Benoit recommended that all specific locations and issues noted in the tracking spreadsheet should reference the posted minutes for the topic rather than trying to paraphrase the outcome in the tracking sheet. Committee members agreed.

#### **Crescent Street Speed Zones**

The Committee discussed a map and email sent by the Town Planner, showing the current locations of speed limit signs along Crescent Street. It was noted that there is a five MPH difference in the westbound and eastbound lanes in the vicinity of Pilot Grove Farm due to a slightly lower speed zone (30 MPH) as drivers approach the Crescent Street/West Acton Road intersection.

#### **Approval of Letters to Residents**

The Committee discussed the draft response to a resident on 34 Meeting House Lane.

*Chief Sallese moved to approve the letter as amended.*

*Steve Nadeau seconded.*

**VOTED: 4-0 Unanimously in favor (Chief Sallese – Yea; Chief Benoit – Yea; Jesse Steadman – Yea; Steve Nadeau)**

The next meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2021 at 1pm.

*Chief Sallese motioned to adjourn*

*Steve Nadeau seconded.*

**VOTED: 4-0 Unanimously in favor (Chief Sallese – Yea; Chief Benoit – Yea; Jesse Steadman – Yea; Steve Nadeau)**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jesse Steadman