

TOWN OF STOW  
TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of November 16, 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.

**Review of Meeting Minutes**

Members reviewed the minutes of October 25th, 2021.

*Jesse Steadman moved to approve the minutes of October 25th , 2021.*

*John Paul Benoit seconded.*

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

**Member Updates**

Chief Sallese noted that his officers have increased their presence on area roads in accordance with the issues presented to the committee, including logging 60 hours of radar since October 25<sup>th</sup> with 83 stops, 43 tickets and 34 warnings and one arrest.

Chief Sallese said he spoke to residents at 35 and 107 Harvard Road to discuss the potential use of speed feedback signs.

Chief Sallese said he has refined his focus on South Acton Road enforcement to be closer to West Acton Road.

Jesse Steadman noted that he would like to discuss a few items at upcoming meetings of the Committee, including a town-wide transportation plan, and budget requests. Chief Sallese said he would like to include a discussion on tracking and updating activity of the Committee.

**Town Wide 25MPH Recommendation**

The Committee members discussed the recommendation with Denise Demboski, Town Administrator. Chief Sallese noted that the town wide regulation would mean that officers did not need to be subjective in their enforcement on roads without current speeds zones, and it would provide for consistency. Denise Demboski recommended that the list of Town owned roads be separated in the Traffic Rules and Orders and that those roads that meet the definition of Thickly Settled be in a separate list from those that do not meet the definition.

The Committee discussed that some of the entrances to Town will likely not need to be posted, noting that the more well travelled ways are more important for placing signage.

Committee members discussed whether a Public Hearing was required prior to adoption of the provisions approved by the May 2017 Annual Town Meeting Voters. Jesse Steadman said he will follow up.

### **Common Road**

Committee Members discussed the issues surrounding traffic circulation at Common Road. Denise Dembkoski noted that the Randall Library designers are looking at two potential designs that would take space from the current Common Road layout. Jesse Steadman recommended that the traffic engineer chosen to undertake a review of the Town Center also review the potential designs for the Library and provide feedback to the Randall Library designers on traffic management.

### **Resident Correspondence**

#### *142 Walcott Street*

Committee Members discussed a request to place mirrors at each lane approaching a tight curve on Walcott Street near the Hudson Town line. The Committee discussed with the resident how mirrors can be a liability for municipalities and may not be as effective as appropriate signage. Chief Sallese recommended that the Committee review appropriate signage and that he would ask officers to step up their presence in the vicinity of the area.

#### *53 Crescent Street*

The Committee discussed the importance of upgrades to the Crescent Street corridor in the Town's Complete Streets Prioritization Plan. The Committee discussed the potential for a safety zone to be implemented along the stretch of Crescent Street that includes Town Hall, Hartley Road, and Randall Library. Denise Dembkoski indicated that if the Committee would like to move forward with the recommendation for a safety zone at that location, they should add it into the memo that requests consideration of a 25 MPH speed limit.

#### *Harvard Road*

Committee members discussed the potential addition of a stop sign along Harvard Road to provide further speed mitigation.

#### *34 Meeting House Lane*

The Committee discussed the letter from a resident at 34 Meeting House Lane. Chief Sallese said that he can step up presence in the area. Jesse Steadman said that the Town had used the temporary speed feedback signs in the past in the location of Elmridge Road, and it appeared to help ease the issues with speeding.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 13, 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