

Traffic and Parking Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 29, 2013

Rockport Police Station, Community Room

In attendance: Tom McCarthy, Joe Parisi, and Linda Sanders

Guests: Lana Razdan, Phillip Conrad, and Laura Deluca

Meeting opened: 1:06 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes of the December 18, 2012 Meeting: Parisi moved to accept the minutes; McCarthy seconded and the vote was unanimous to accept.

Radar Speed Board – proposal: Parisi reported receiving a commitment from Mass DOT to place a speed board somewhere between the Gloucester border and High Street on Rt. 127; the exact location will be determined with input from this committee. The joint meeting will be scheduled in the spring. Sanders thanked Ms. Deluca for her work on this project. The committee then discussed the possibility of purchasing additional speed boards for other locations in Town. The process of the Town purchasing the boards from the state vendor will be discussed further with the representative from Mass DOT in the spring meeting.

School Zone – signage proposal: Mr. Conrad presented a signage proposal, see attached, to increase safety for the children walking to school by rerouting traffic, directing the vehicles down Broadway to South Street to Jerdens Lane. Mr. Conrad clarified, on Parisi's request, that this proposal will involve commercial traffic and competing sports teams. The School plans to contact Google to correct the route if this plan is approved. Sanders suggested that this proposal may require input from the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen. Sanders moved to forward the Signage Proposal to the Board of Selectmen with the support of the Traffic and Parking Committee, Parisi seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Seagull Street – school congestion and parking issues: McCarthy reported that several site visits had been conducted in this neighborhood during school hours and no problems were observed. Parking did not infringe on driveways or crosswalks. Mr. Conrad offered to be a contact for neighborhood residents when problems occur. A letter will be sent to Mr. Harnish, offering Mr. Conrad's contact information.

Economic Development Committee – proposal to direct pedestrians to the

Cultural District: Ms. Razdan presented a Way Finding proposal from the EDC to direct tourists to the best and safest route from the train station to the Cultural District. The message to be conveyed is the Town is upbeat and exciting. The EDC hopes to involve the Town in the project which may increase community pride; perhaps having a design contest for the image and artwork, and by involving scouts in doing the stencil work in the sidewalk. Ms. Razdan suggested that the design contest could standardize the Town's logo. Once implemented, the publicity for this project will be inserted in all appropriate Chamber of Commerce literature. The method to be used to direct people would involve a line in the sidewalk, similar to the Freedom Trail, not additional signage around Town. Sanders likes the idea and suggested that this project should involve the Planning Board, Board of Selectmen and the DPW prior to implementation. She also questioned if this project's long term maintenance would increase the DPW's work load. Sanders asked Ms. Razdan to provide a written proposal which this committee could bring with their support to the Board of Selectmen

2:10 p.m.: McCarthy motioned to adjourn the meeting, Parisi seconded and it was voted unanimously.