

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
Minutes, April 8, 2002
7:00 PM, Public Safety Building

PRESENT: Bob Andrews, Dick Meyer, Doris Brandt, Howard McDonald, Becky Simpson, and Jack Stephens.

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Knorr and Mary Newell

OTHERS: Butch Donovan, Mahlon Macy, and Ron Clay

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Bob Andrews called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

A) Review and approve minutes of March 11, 2002
Tabled to next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) Communication from Spaulding Oaks Homeowners Association requesting 25' of "no parking" be added to the present 20 feet at the north exit at 1100 N Meridian Street

Mahlon Macy, Spaulding Oaks Homeowners Association, 1100 N. Meridian, explained their request to extend the present "no parking" area by approximately 25 feet to increase visibility. Currently, no parking exists adjacent to the driveway but the distance is not enough for safety. He cited an recent accident involving one resident who had to pull far into the roadway in order to see the on coming traffic. To help solve the issue, bushes have been trimmed, but later were removed. He requested that another 25 feet of no parking space be added to free up vision clearance and provide for safer travel onto Meridian.

Brandt added that the vans which had been blocking visibility had been moved by the owners once they were advised the vans were creating an unsafe condition, that they were not aware that the vans were causing a problem.

Discussion regarding the traffic and parking on Meridian were discussed. Macy indicated that there were few ownerships on the block in question.

Dick Meyer cautioned against setting a precedent. Howard McDonald sympathized with Mr. Macy, noting that he had observed similar issues. Simpson expressed support if the elimination of parking prevented accidents and there was no need for on-street parking.

Jack Stephens talked about firsthand experience with pulling out of the driveway, noting he regularly drives a church van which makes a stop at Spaulding Oaks. He suggested limiting parking to compact cars.

Motion: Meyer/Brandt to hold a public hearing at the May meeting to vacate one parking space

south of the north driveway into Spaulding Oaks, 1100 N. Meridian Street. There was no opposition, and the motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bob Andrews, noting he had spoken to Anna Rose and Sue Chambers, raised the issue of Arlington Drive, and said that additional signatures were being gathered and would be put on the next agenda as an item.

STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION:

A) Chief of Police -

Newberg Police will be initiating a pedestrian/crosswalk program for the summer, particularly during the construction project on Hwy. 99W.

B) Engineering -

Engineering is revisiting the traffic islands and reflectivity issues.

C) Traffic Safety Committee Sub-Committees:

1. Community Relations - Block Party scheduled for May 15, construction kickoff.
2. Pedestrian Safety- No report.
3. Parking Safety (passenger vehicles & trucks) - Rust colored truck on Fulton at the corner of Fulton/Meridian is back.
4. Traffic Control & Obstructions - No report.

REPORTS:

Ron Clay, ODOT, distributed maps for discussion regarding signing the diversion. Bob Andrews expressed concern that Traffic Safety was not actively involved in the traffic movement process. It was noted that timing was a factor, that decisions needed to be made and did not coincide with the Traffic Safety Commission meeting schedule.

Followed was an exhaustive discussion regarding traffic pattern, flow, turning radius, and the possible configurations, with recommendations and suggestions exchanged. Ron Clay and Bob Knorr appreciated the input from the Traffic Safety Commission. It was recommended that parking on both sides of Main between First and Second streets be removed for the duration of the construction.

Bob Knorr will be walking the length of the diversion with Russ Thomas to physically identify sign placement, et cetera.

The Mountainview section is progressing and will be completed on time due to good weather and multiple crews. It does not include the placement of a light on College until late summer or fall. Mountainview will be completed through the A-dec property as part of the City's Transportation Plan.

Regarding the three way stop at Hancock/Villa, this will be a problem intersection per Bob Knorr, this has not yet been tackled. A three-way stop may impede some pedestrian traffic, but would facilitate traffic movement from Haworth.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR: None.

ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING: Next meeting May 13, 2002

Motion: Brandt/Meyer to adjourn. Motion carried.

Mary Newell