

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
7:00 p.m., Monday, April 12, 2004
Public Safety Building

PRESENT: Chairman Mike Simpson, Dick Meyer, Doris Brandt, Ron Sult, Joyce Vergets, and Tamera Wimmer.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Jim Bennett, Bob Knorr, Mary Newell

ABSENT: Howard McDonald, Everett Clarkson and Becky Simpson

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Mike Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

A) Review and approve minutes of February 9, 2004 and March 8, 2004.

Motion: Meyers/Brandt to approve the minutes of February 9, 2004, as written. Motion passed.

Motion: Brandt/Sult to approve the minutes of March 8, 2004, as written. Motion passed.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

A) Request of George Fox University for a stop sign on Center entering Sheridan

Bob Knorr reported that he was out at the location and did not view any issues at this location. Responding to question, Knorr indicated that it requires up to three people to complete a traffic study.

Action: Simpson requested that Staff conduct a traffic study on this request and report back in sixty (60) days.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

4. NEW BUSINESS:

A) Discussion regarding vehicles parking illegally in bike lanes. Consider additional bike symbols, signage and/or targeted enforcement.

Motion: Wimmer/Brandt to table this issue until more information is received. Issue tabled.

5. STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION:

A) Police:

- Dispatch is celebrating National Telecommunicators Week
- Sergeant Dave James will be retiring May 20th, after 30 years of service
- Animal Shelter Friends received \$1077 from First Federal Savings
- ACTSOregon/Newberg Traffic Safety will be hosting a Grant Writing course on 6/12

B) Engineering-

- Signs are up at Chehalem and 9th Streets
- Springbrook is much improved. Requested that left/right turning movement improvement (signage) be installed in street
- No Parking on Aaron Way was decided by the City Council, upholding decision of Traffic Safety Commission
- Working with Friendsview Manor on issue related to left-turn lane on Villa & Fulton
- Hwy. 219/Elliott Road, ODOT still looking at the issue and Knorr will continue to monitor
- Sewer project on N College.

Motion: Brandt/Meyer to direct that a letter from the Traffic Safety Commission be sent to ODOT requesting a response as to when ODOT plans to repair College. Motion carried.

C) Traffic Safety Committee Sub-Committees:

1. Community Relations -

Dick Meyer reported that the Chamber of Commerce has moved into their new facility at the Chehalem Cultural Community Center. City Manager Jim Bennett advised that with the move, parking has become an issue for Chamber visitors and the Chamber of Commerce would like the Traffic Safety Commission to look at this issue. One suggestion has been to move the no parking from the north side of Sheridan to the south side; however, there is concern with access for the Masons lodge. This will be a temporary situation as a parking lot is scheduled to be built.

2. Pedestrian Safety - None

3. Parking Safety (passenger vehicles & trucks) - None

4. Traffic Control & Obstructions - None

6. **REPORTS:**

A) Review of Traffic Safety Commission Log of Decisions

List was distributed and members were asked get corrections to Ms. Newell at the next meeting.

City Manager Jim Bennett suggested that Traffic Safety Commission members might consider how it interacts and to what degree they wish to be involved with other Commission, including the City Council and Planning Commission on traffic safety issues.

Mike Simpson asked that between now and the May meeting, that Commission members consider this question and be prepared to discuss at the May meeting.

7. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Tim Mayfield, 101 Tukwila Drive, presented a petition to the Traffic Safety Commission regarding concern for pedestrian safety at the intersection of N. Main and Foothills Drive.

Content of the petition is as follows:

Dear Ms. Newell,

I am writing to you to bring focus, and propose a solution, to an unsafe traffic condition. Mike Simpson suggested I write you in hopes the condition would be evaluated at the next Traffic Safety Commission meeting April 12, 2004. The intersection is located at N. Main and E. Foothills Drive, where N Main ends at a

Tee near Crater Elementary School.

The condition is described as follows: On school days, a crossing guard helps children cross Foothills Drive on the northeast corner of Main. If children are walking up the west side of Main they must cross Main to use the crossing guard on the Foothills crosswalk.

Northbound traffic on Main must stop at the intersection. But east and westbound traffic on Foothills does not have a stop sign. Because there is on Foothills crosswalk on the west corner of Main, eastbound traffic has no clear impedance when turning south onto Main. Unaware children crossing Main to get to the Foothills crossing guard are experiencing near-misses when motorists make quick right-hand turns.

The crossing guard has described two such near-misses my 10 year old daughter has experienced. Several neighbors in the area describe similar experience. I do not profess to be any kind of traffic engineer, but I would propose a stop sign for both east and westbound traffic on Foothills. A stop there would seem to have two benefits. One, reduce the risk to school children crossing Main. Two, lower the average speed on Foothills in front of the schools located there.

Stop signs on Foothills may even have a third benefit. The crossing guard has observed drivers who ignore her flag and drive through the crosswalk when children are in the street. Stopping traffic with signs would reduce this hazard.

Please note the signatures below of my fellow neighbors who support this proposal.

Sincerely,

Tim Mayfield

Dana Klinger

Kristen Kosmicki

John Stramm

Melinda Oglen

Romona Youngquist

Bob Knorr indicated that a traffic study would have to be completed prior to installing a crosswalk to ensure warrants are met. Too many crosswalks/stop signs can create an unsafe situation.

Mike Simpson indicated four needs: police presence, stop sign issue, crossing guard issue, and the need for a traffic study.

Joyce Vergets indicated the stop signs were installed long after the crosswalks were installed, and feels that stop signs are warranted for both ends of Foothills.

Motion: Vergets to install stop signs. Motion died for lack of a second.

Action: M. Newell will ensure contact with school to initiate discussion regarding enforcement and meet with crossing guard.

8. **ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING: May 10, 2004**

Motion: Meyer/Brandt to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried and meeting adjourned.


Mary Newell, Recording Secretary