

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES
May 10, 2005
7:00 PM, Newberg Public Safety Building

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

ABSENT: Howard McDonald.

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Danicic, City Engineer; Police Sergeant Tim Weaver; and Mary Newell, Recording Secretary.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Chairman Mike Simpson called the meeting to order.

A) Review and approve minutes of April 12, 2004

Motion: Brandt/Meyer to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR:

There were no communications from the floor.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

A) Continued discussion regarding crosswalk safety at Foothills and N Main

Michael Simpson read the letter from Newberg school district crosswalk attendant Jan Ellis into the record:

May 10, 2004

To: the City of Newberg

My name is Jan and I have been the crossing guard for the Newberg School District for 12 years and 8 years of that have been here on Foothills and Main.

In this 8 years, I have seen a lot of growth. More houses have been built and are still being built. Which means more TRAFFIC and more Kids that will be walking to school.

As I have watched this growth, cars have increased their speed, which this is done by parents and senior citizens, high school kids, also teachers. This increased speed form cars causes a great concern.

I have seen kids who have been almost hit by cars. I have had 9 people go through the cross walk with me in it, with the flag out. If people don't know that it is a \$300.00 fine if caught by police. People need to slow down.

People come off College and aped down Foothills, turn on to Main without looking to see if there's anyone in the crosswalk. I have seen a child almost hit twice because of this. This is also the same concern coming from Chehalem Drive up Foothills to Main.

I would hate to think that someone has to be seriously hurt or may be killed, before something is done. Thank you for your time.

Jan Ellis

Dan presented the traffic study conducted by the Engineering Department. While there does not appear to be any vision clearance issues, this cannot be confirmed until further measurements have been made.

Motion: Vergets/Clarkson to hold a public hearing on the June 14th. Motion carried. Notices of the public hearing will be sent to residents within 300 feet.

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

Dan Danicic indicated this issue had been raised by Council Bob Andrews due to concerns over persons parking in the bike lanes. Danicic does not feel more signage will fix the issue and suggested that other options should be reviewed.

Bob Andrews, 1013 N Sitka, indicated that he would support some type of educational program, but if that does not work would like to see an increase in enforcement. He cited the parking issues on Foothills Drive and how residents parked in the bike lanes, noting that the area was redesigned.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

A) Sheridan Street Parking Review

Ann Dolan, Newberg Area Chamber of Commerce, 415 E Sheridan, explained that the Chamber had moved into their new location and it was difficult for visitors to find and park at the Chamber. She and Michael Thompson, Newberg Masonic Lodge, met and have worked out a possible solution.

Michael Thompson, Newberg Masonic Lodge, said they propose installing no parking on the south side of Sheridan from 6 AM to 6 PM. Thompson is concerned about taking away parking for his patrons, many of whom are aged.

Sergeant Tim Weaver, Newberg Police, indicated that a problem with the 6 AM to 6 PM would create a problem for residents who overstay the 6 PM or 6AM time limit.

Discussion followed, including possibility of a trial period. Ann Dolan advised that this arrangement would be temporary because parking is to be installed at the Chamber offices within the next two years. Mike Simpson feels it is a reasonable request.

Motion: Meyer/Clarkson to approved limited parking on both the north side and south side of Sheridan Street between Blaine and Howard by allowing parking during the daylight hours on the north side of Sheridan and parking during the nighttime hours on the south side of Sheridan with signage approved per MUTCD requirements, with the understanding that if parking issues arise and become problematic, that this limited decision will be revisited and rescinded.

Dan indicated that this would be a special order sign, to expect them in about four weeks plus time for installation. A fourteen day appeal period is in effect.

B) Consider role of Traffic Safety Commission in reviewing new and/or modified development projects within the City.

Discussion between Traffic Safety Commission members, Council Bob Andrews, and City Engineer Dan Danicic on how involved Traffic Safety Commission members would like to be in other City committee activities, such as the Newberg Planning Commission and design review.

Michael Simpson set aside the July meeting to hold a workshop to discuss this in detail, requesting that the technical aspects of the process be explored.

5. STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION:

A) Police

Sergeant Tim Weaver reported:

- June 26 is the annual Kids' Fair and the Community Resource Officer is looking for volunteers.
- May is Bicycle Safety month, and Newberg Police Department has helmets available for low income families.
- NPD is continuing with DUII enforcement under a grant for officer overtime.
- Sergeant James is retiring. His last day is May 20th, and a party is planned for May 21st.

B) Engineering

Dan Danicic reported:

- Distributed a sample letter in response to concern regarding need to pave College Street, noting that the City is tentatively scheduled to pave the west side of College pending rain
- Advised of Thursday night meeting of Mountainview Drive LID
- Completed a review of all properties for Main Street LID from Lynn south to Illinois. About 90% of properties have non-remonstrances for development. LID will begin later this year.
- Mountainview Drive, between Aspen and Springbrook, site survey done, with geotechnical work to begin next month.
- Dan Danicic to send a letter to the State regarding no parking on North Street since its ODOT's right of way.

- C) Traffic Safety Committee Sub-Committees:
1. Community Relations – No report.
 2. Pedestrian Safety - No report.
 3. Parking Safety (passenger vehicles & trucks) – No report.
 4. Traffic Control & Obstructions – No report.

6. REPORTS: None.

Sergeant Weaver will secure information on scooter laws and report back to the Traffic Safety Commission.

Motion: Brandt/Meyer to send a letter to Commission Member Howard McDonald regarding his absences. Motion carried.

7. ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING: June 14, 2004

Motion: Brandt/Clarkson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9 PM. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned.



Mary Newell, Recording Secretary