

CITY OF NEWBERG TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES
AUGUST 11, 2014, 7:00 PM
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING, 401 E. THIRD STREET, NEWBERG

“Mission Statement: To give the citizens of Newberg a forum to voice traffic safety concerns, evaluate related issues, provide a liaison with the City and promote traffic safety within the community.”

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Neal Klein called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present:	Neal Klein, Chair	Karl Birky, Vice Chair	
	David Venable	Tony Roos	Kari Lawson
	Chris Kelly	Ron Johns	David Hostetler
	Mayor Bob Andrews, ex-officio		

Staff Present:	Brian Casey, chief of police	Jason Wuertz, civil engineer
	Nicole Tannler, minutes recorder	

Others Present: Janelle Lawrence, Bodhi Newman, Rick Rogers, and John Vida

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Klein opened the public testimony.

Mr. Rick Rogers introduced himself to help with the S. Blaine Street request. He is with Habitat for Humanity.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation by Janelle Lawrence, Director of Oregon Impact, on educational and community programs that Oregon Impact can offer Oregon's Traffic Safety Committees

Ms. Lawrence passed out a booklet to help discuss the distracted driving problem. They have a video of a distracted driver, a driving simulator which is the only one in the Northwest, and some high-tech and low-tech distracted driving games. They offer some other tools to help with how to ask for grants, how to keep your volunteers, and can get your own distracted driving games.

B. Request for assistance with speeding and reckless behavior on S. Blaine Street

Mr. Bodhi Newman lives on NW Blaine Street. He asked for help for reckless driving on his street and that there are several neighbors besides himself who are concerned.

Commissioner Birky asked whom he has contacted from the city. Mr. Newman said he has contacted police officers, Chief Casey, and Mary Newell.

There was a brief discussion on the speed limit and whether speed bumps were working.

City Engineer Jason Wuertz said road is privately owned where the pavement ends.

Mr. Don Clemens the superintendent of parks and recreation said it is part of the city limits and Mr. Terry Mahr the previous city attorney drew up some of the paperwork and it was annexed.

There was a brief discussion on whether the road was city property because of a previous annexation.

Chief Brian Casey said no one likes speeding cars in their neighborhood. He said the Police Department did a speed survey, reviewed the reports and he did a personal onsite visit. He said the problems were minimal and did not warrant the amount of time the Police Department has spent on the issue.

Mayor Andrews asked about traffic citations and accident reports. Chief Casey said there were 66 warnings and citations during the last five years and no accidents. Mayor Andrews asked about after-hours activity in that area. Chief Casey said there has been some activity at night. He said if the gate could be locked by the Parks and Recreation District it would probably help the situation.

Mr. Clemens said the District does not lock their parks because they have had more trouble when they do lock gates than when they don't.

There was a brief discussion on the history of problems on the road including the paving and speed bump location.

Chair Klein thanked Mr. Newman for attending the meeting.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

No discussion

VII. STAFF REPORTS – GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Engineering

Civil Engineer Wuertz reported on maintenance on Villa before the rainy season. He said he could place counters at a different location before school starts on S. Blaine Street.

B. Police

Police Chief Casey reported we had a bunch of events going on in the city this summer and police issues were minimal. He said traffic has been pretty heavy with construction so accidents have been low but there was a high number of DUI's with 22 issued. He said the department had been busy with the Jennifer Huston case.

Ms. Jacque Betz , the new city manager, introduced herself.

Mayor Andrews recommended finding out the jurisdiction on S. Blaine Street and the right-of-way.

Nicole Charlson, ODOT and traffic safety, said the problems in Newberg include speeding, impaired driving, belts, and distracted driving. She said ODOT is pushing enforcement. The agency will have upcoming campaigns on drunk driving, seat belts, and booster seats. She said work zone crashes have become a problem and ODOT will monitor them.

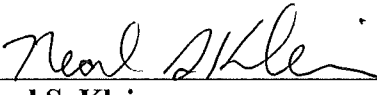
X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7: 58 PM.

Approved by the Newberg Traffic Safety Commission on this 13th day of October, 2014.



Minutes Recorder



Neal S. Klein
Traffic Safety Commission Chair