

**STREETS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
CITY OF REHOBOTH BEACH**

April 28, 2014

The Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting of the City of Rehoboth Beach was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chair Bill Sargent on Monday, April 28, 2014 in the Commissioners Room in City Hall, 229 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Bill Sargent, Kathy Osterholm, Cindy Lovett, John Gauger, Dennis Diehl (left the meeting at 11:05 a.m.), Jim Ellison, Toni Sharp, Lorraine Zellers

Also Present: City Manager Sharon Lynn, June Embert, Mike Peterman, Police Chief Keith Banks

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Lorraine Zellers made a motion, seconded by Kathy Osterholm, to approve the Agenda with the deletion of the January 27, 2014, February 24, 2014 and March 24, 2014 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No Minutes were available for approval.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

OLD BUSINESS

Discuss revised "Possible Agenda Items" document.

Item No. 4. Consider adding more educational materials for pedestrian safety to include hazardous sidewalks and sprinkler systems.

Item No. 5. Consider measures to increase safety for pedestrians with respect to growth and sidewalks. This item falls under the purview of the City Manager and was not for the Committee to address.

Item No. 6. Consider removing tree branches where street lights are blocked. This item falls under the purview of the City Manager and was not for the Committee to address.

Item Nos. 16 & 17. Items related to scooters. The attorneys have asked that the Committee does nothing to address this until the court case fully runs through.

Item No. 30. Consider problems related to unloading of delivery trucks. City Manager Sharon Lynn and the Chamber of Commerce are gathering information. The Committee will not be involved with this item at this point in time.

City Manager Lynn noted that informal discussions are being held. Police Chief Banks is also involved with the discussions. Any action that would be taken from those meetings would come before the Committee before anything is approved and done.

Christine Hastings of Jolly Trolley Inc. added that the discussions are good.

Tom McGlone, Laurel Street said that the meeting should be formal, not informational.

Walter Brittingham, 123 Henlopen Avenue, referred to Item No. 6. Street lights – item no. 6. He noted that Delmarva Power owns the street lights, and there should be a process for removing blockages away from the lights. With regard to Item No. 5, the City is oftentimes at fault for not pruning things back. Surf Avenue should be pushed to a high priority. There should be a policy with regard to growth extending beyond sight lines. It is the Committee's purview to create a policy. Kathy will work on this to see if it should become an effective agenda item.

Kathy suggested that some of the items may need to be brought to the forefront after the Committee sees what happens during the summer season and there is evidence about them, such as whether or not more bike racks are

needed, bicycle parking and a way to track it, etc.

Item Nos. 6A, 7 & 8 will be considered as one agenda item.

Discuss status of markings and no parking zone for Surf Avenue.

Bill was not comfortable with taking parking away on the east side of Surf Avenue. A large portion of the fundamental problem with safety was solved when the new pavement was put in and allowed bicycles to stay out of the travel lane. Marking the shoulder along the east side of Surf Avenue will add to safety. Mike Peterman of the Parking Department will decide how the white line will run. Discussion ensued as to the white line and forcing bicyclists on the travel lane.

Walter Brittingham said that the white line should start before rounding the corner on Lake and Surf Avenues.

Jim Ellison agreed to the parking on the east side of Surf Avenue, but sharrows would need to be painted at both ends. Sharrows would be placed in the travel lane indicating to drivers that bicycles will be in the driving lane.

Kathy said that the white line will be delineating for drivers the travel lane of 11 feet from the centerline of the roadway.

The consensus of the Committee members was that there should white lines on both sides, 11 feet from the centerline on the area where the turn begins from Lake Avenue to Henlopen Avenue on Surf Avenue.

Toni Sharp had no objection that as a result of the conversations, the markings the Committee discussed can be made on Surf Avenue. Cindy Lovett agreed. Kathy Osterholm agreed. Lorraine Zellers agreed. Bill Sargent agreed. Jim Ellison agreed. John Gauger agreed. Dennis Diehl agreed.

City Manager Lynn will take the Committee's recommendation and have Mike see if it can successfully be accomplished.

The consensus of the Committee members was that sharrow markings should be installed at both ends of Surf Avenue.

Gary Glass, 105 Country Club Drive, said that a lot of people do not understand what sharrows are.

Karen Zakarian said that bicyclists should follow the rules of the road.

Dennis Diehl agreed that sharrows should be north and southbound on Surf Avenue. John Gauge agreed. Jim Ellison agreed. Bill Sargent agreed because they would not hurt safety at all, and any possible confusion would be trivial. Lorraine Zellers agreed. Kathy Osterholm agreed. Cindy Lovett agreed. Toni Sharp agreed.

Discuss proposed Breakwater Trail head on Rehoboth Avenue.

Bill has been discussing this item with Mayor Cooper, and he intends to write letters to the State addressing the issue of the State working with the City in planning the combined trails. Bill had suggested that signage and publications should not make the City look like it is a route on a trail since it is a destination.

Kathy thought this might be a good time for the press to do an article on bike safety and educate the public. She has provided comments with regard to this matter on the State website.

Cindy said that there is no place for a trail head. The City has not provided a good means to bicyclists through the it. She suggested that the State should fix the right-of-way on Columbia Avenue and put in a bike lane.

Jim said that the City bike map should be located at the trail head to welcome people to the City and tell them the safe routes in the City and to rejoin the rest of the trail.

Walter Brittingham said that the State should coordinate with the City before the new State bike maps are done.

Tom McGlone suggested that the Committee should draft a letter to Mayor Cooper of its recommendations.

Jim and Kathy will work on drafting a letter to Mayor Cooper.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss possible methods of controlling traffic speed on Hickman Street in Country Club Estates.

Gary Glass, 105 Hickman Street, voiced concern about speed on Hickman Street and the public not stopping at the stop signs. He thought two solar powered speed control signs and possibly lowering the speed to 15 mph would help. Discussion ensued.

City Manager Lynn would have Police Chief Banks investigate what the costs would be to for two solar powered speed control signs. This would impact the budget. Police Chief Banks thought said that he may be able to get a partial grant to fund this project and to reach out to local representatives for support.

Previously, the Committee has decided that it must be cautious about approving things for individual streets based on individual residents' recommendations. Kathy said that she is being cautious about recommending this for no other reason than the Committee having a standard as to why it considers recommending any signs.

Toni suggested that this could be characterized as a pilot program to see how the residents react and respond and how the community of drivers responds. If the Committee gets other requests, it will know if other streets need to be dealt with in this same fashion. She supported that the Committee recommend moving forward with this matter. Cindy was unsure about what will be achieved. Kathy agreed with Toni. Lorraine, Jim, John, Dennis and Bill supported purchasing the signs.

Karen Zakarian said that a traffic study can be done by DelDOT at no cost. Signs can be obtained and installed by DelDOT at both ends of the streets for a cost of \$5,000.00 each.

Walter Brittingham said that the signs should be placed at the direction of the City Manager. what is it. They should be visible and have shadow boxes on them.

Consider possible proposed additional to "Possible Agenda Items" document.

Additional items to include on the document were previously discussed.

Discuss items to be included on agenda for next meeting.

An item to be included on the May agenda is: 1. Additional silent policeman on Surf Avenue. 2. Sidewalks blocked by overgrowth. 3. Status report on Surf Avenue. 4. Status report on the Breakwater Trail head. 5. Status report on the Hickman Street issue.

An item to be included on the June agenda is: 1. Consider parking meter times and zones in the commercial district.

An item to be included on the July agenda is: 1. Snow removal.

An item to be included on a future agenda is: 1. Extending the bicycle lane to the corner of Ocean Drive and Henlopen Avenue.

Set next meeting date.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Citizen Comment

There was none.

There being no further business, Chair Bill Sargent adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(Ann M. Womack, City Secretary)

**MINUTES APPROVED ON
DECEMBER 29, 2014**

(Bill Sargent, Chair)