

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

JUNE 16, 2014

The Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting of the City of Rehoboth Beach was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Chair Bill Sargent on Monday, June 16, 2014 in the Commissioners Room in City Hall, 229 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Bill Sargent, Kathy Osterholm, John Gauger, Dennis Diehl, Jim Ellison, Toni Sharp, Lorraine Zellers

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Cindy Lovett made a motion, seconded by John Gauger, to approve the Agenda with the deletion of the January 27, 2014, February 24, 2014, March 24, 2014 and April 28, 2014 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes were deferred to the June 16, 2014 meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

OLD BUSINESS

Consider status of markings on Surf Avenue

Bill suggested that the Committee should think in terms of what it would take to widen the roadway on the west side so a white line can be placed on Surf Avenue. Between Park and Pennsylvania Avenues, there would be plenty of room for the white line and parking. Paving should not be done during the summer months, and an estimate should be gotten to make a minor extension in those two blocks. This will be possibly placed on the Agenda for next month's meeting.

City Manager Sharon Lynn noted that measurements were taken on Surf Avenue. Bill had been notified of the measurements. Police Chief Keith Banks and Mike Peterman were also in attendance. Keith noted that 12 feet would be required for the location of the white line, but portions of the line would be in the gravel dirt.

Lorraine Zellers said that there should be continued discussion for something to be done and plan for that area for next year's budget.

Sharon reported that bike racks have been supplied in many locations along Surf Avenue. The City has submitted an application through DNREC to clear vegetation, prune tree limbs, level the ground for two bike racks at the southeast side of Surf Avenue at Oak Avenue. A preliminary discussion was held and preliminary approval was given by DNREC at the site. It is anticipated that the City will hear from DNREC this week with the formal written approval, and then construction will be started. The City employees will do the construction. DNREC will do construction on the dunes. With regard to the placement of bike racks at Surf Avenue, Sharon thought it would be more conducive to put the racks on the east side where the dune crossing are located.

Cindy Lovett will talk with Sharon before the next meeting about possibly placing additional bike racks in other areas of the City.

Consider status of speed control device on Hickman Street.

Sharon and Keith had met on June 14, 2014 with the Board from Country Club Estates Homeowners' Association. The Board had requested, in the past, the placement of stop signs and speed signs. This project is doable, but it is a matter of having the funding to purchase two flashing or stationary speed signs. The cost would be \$5,000 each. The City is searching for any grant funds that would be available. Two signs would be preferable, but one sign would be satisfactory at this point. Keith noted that he has identified locations for the signs.

This project would be a pilot program which may move other areas in the City to come forward.

A suggestion was made to put one sign coming in on Munson Street and one on Hickman Street. This would cover the two major thruways. Keith noted that two signs would be needed for each street.

Consider status of request that City work with State on City gateway issues.

Bill noted that Mayor Sam Cooper has been in contact with representatives from DNREC about setting a meeting for discussion on this issue. There is a possibility that the Committee will be involved in the meeting. There is recognition from some representatives from the State that the City should be involved regarding signage and locations.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider additional locations for Silent Policemen and additional locations for pedestrian crossings.

Bill noted that a silent policeman is located at Oak and Surf Avenues. He suggested that silent policemen should also be located at Park and Surf Avenues, Pennsylvania and Surf Avenues and at the location where there is a boardwalk/sidewalk at the curve on Surf and Lake Avenues. He also suggested considering a crosswalk and silent policeman at Park Avenue looking south on Surf Avenue. The locations of the silent policemen would be decided upon by the City Manager and Police Chief. Additional speed calming for Lake Avenue was suggested along with a crosswalk and silent policeman on Lake Avenue at First Street.

Other locations to be considered for silent policemen would be at State Road and Canal Street, Rehoboth Avenue and State Road, crossings at First and Second Streets.

Keith commented that if there are too many silent policemen, they will become ineffective. One thought to remember is that on Rehoboth Avenue, there are two lanes moving in the same direction. He recommended that silent policemen should not be placed on Rehoboth Avenue, but if any would be located on this street they should be located at a crosswalk. Police officers had suggested that only one more silent policeman could be added on Surf Avenue.

A suggestion was made for the police officers to study the different areas recommended by the Committee and to provide input. The Committee will provide photographs of the different areas to the police officers.

Another suggestion was that the crosswalks on Rehoboth Avenue that are not at intersections should be well painted. The possibility of yield to pedestrians could be used on such streets as King Charles Avenue, etc.

The Bicycle Plan had recommended 11 new crosswalks, but the Commissioners did not move forward with them. The crosswalk lines were painted. The costs of construction would be expensive, and curb-cuts would be required.

Dennis Diehl provided photographs of State Road, Hickman Street and Canal Street where there should be a crosswalk. Another area for consideration would be at Munson Street and State Road.

DeIDOT had done a traffic study last fall. The recommendation from the Committee was that the study should be done in the summer season for DeIDOT to take action. Lorraine Zellers will provide this information to Sharon.

Since State Road is a state road, there may be monies available should the Committee determine that the crosswalk is a priority.

Sharon acknowledged that the City can look ways to monitor pedestrian and vehicular activity on State Road.

The Committee will suggest the areas for crosswalks, put priorities on them and then turn them over to the City to make the decision as to what would be the most effective.

Receive report of Bloom Subcommittee.

Lorraine reported that the Subcommittee was charged by the Streets & Transportation Committee to develop a beautification project, Rehoboth in Bloom. She provided a brief history of the Subcommittee and its projects. Three projects were developed: 1. Rain garden in front of City Hall. 2. Planting bed at Canal Bridge. 3. Lamppost planters at Lake Gerar Bridge. The City Manager and Public Works Director were available to go forward with a new plan to move the planters from Lake Gerar Bridge to the Bandstand area. At the last meeting in November 2012, it was suggested that the memorial tree beds on Rehoboth Avenue should be better maintained. Since then, the Subcommittee met with the City Manager and Sposato to determine recommendations for these beds. A significant part of the Subcommittee's budget in 2013 was to redo twenty of the twenty-six beds identified as being in dire shape. Unfortunately, the plants did not survive due to watering issues. Since then, Sposato has replanted the beds, and a much better watering system is in place. Another project that was done as a joint effort with the

business owner of the Mariachi house, the City and East Coast Landscaping was the right-of-way in front of the business. A meeting was held in April 2014, and the Subcommittee decided to maintain the three original ongoing projects. The Subcommittee discussed the need for beautification at the memorial area at the Bandstand, and this project was undertaken. Most of the successful beautification programs have an organized program and an organized group. Their funding is either through a City, nonprofit or a combination of City and volunteers through an adopt program. They have applications with contact information, location of a possible project, start and finish dates, frequency of servicing the projects, description of projects, agreements and waivers. They all usual required a year commitment. The Subcommittee is looking at this as a parallel path for Rehoboth and have the City develop the bigger projects and have adopt programs for volunteers to take on and spearhead through the City. The Subcommittee is in the process of developing criteria. For 2015, the Subcommittee has identified two projects: 1. State Road entrance to the City. 2. City yard at Lincoln Street. At some point in time, the Subcommittee may ask to be its own committee. It will be working on cost for the upcoming budget for projects moving forward. A commitment will be needed to take charge of a volunteer group, have a management plan and get approval through the City.

Consider suggested revisions to Possible Agenda Items document.

There were none.

Discuss items to be included on agenda for next meeting.

Items to be included on the next agenda area: 1. Report on additional locations of bike racks. 2. Discuss snow removal. 3. Discuss parking meter locations and enforcement to include 30 minute meters.

An items to be include on a future agenda is: 1. Delays on traffic lights.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on July 28, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

CITIZEN COMMENT

There was none.

There being no further business, Chair Bill Sargent adjourned the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(Ann M. Womack, City Secretary)

**MINUTES APPROVED ON
JULY 28, 2014**

(Bill Sargent, Chair)