

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

March 25, 2013

The Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting of the City of Rehoboth Beach was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Chair Pat Coluzzi on Monday, March 25, 2013 in the Commissioners Room in City Hall, 229 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Pat Coluzzi, Kathy Osterholm (arrived at 9:02 a.m.), Cindy Lovett, Lorraine Zellers, John Gauger, Dennis Diehl (left at 11:02 a.m.), Bill Sargent, Mel Craig

Absent: Jim Ellison

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Bill Sargent made a motion, seconded by John Gauger, to approve the Agenda with the deletion of the September 7, 2012, November 2, 2012 and March 1, 2013 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The September 7, 2012, November 2, 2012 and March 1, 2013 Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes were not available for approval.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

OLD BUSINESS

Continue discussing plans for position of bicycle racks throughout the City.

Pat noted that the bicycle racks have been painted and have been positioned on the Boardwalk. Pat and Mel Craig had identified two specific areas at the ends of Brooklyn Avenue and Philadelphia Street where the bicycle racks could block pedestrian traffic. The City Manager will make sure that these areas are decked and the bicycle racks will be directly behind the benches and parallel to the street end.

Bill had identified existing locations for bicycle racks and suggested expanding to more locations as needed. The bicycle parking station at Lingo's could be expanded to provide more racks. The Committee had wanted to have a parking stations located at Wilmington Avenue and First Street last year. The Committee was not successful in getting the Fire Department to agree in converting a fire lane into an area to be used for a parking station.

Suggestions that were made with regard to placement of additional bicycle racks:

1. End of Rehoboth Avenue – two racks by Dollies and two by Candy Kitchen. The benches could be moved, and the racks could be placed perpendicular to them. Do not bolt down the two racks at Dollies.
2. Some bicycle racks should be bolted down on the streets other than Rehoboth Avenue.
3. New bicycle racks along the south end of the Boardwalk should be bolted down.
4. Place a bicycle rack at Starbucks.
5. Place a bicycle rack at Grub.
6. Possibly place a bicycle rack in the parking lot across the street from Cultured Pearl at Lake and Rehoboth Avenues.
7. See how the racks are used. Some may be used on both sides.
8. An area will be paved for scooters behind the Fire Company. Some of the space can be used for bicycle racks.
9. Greg Ferrese and Mike Peterman to locate an area on Wilmington Avenue for a station.
10. Use new bicycle racks at the Wilmington and Baltimore Avenues bicycle parking stations.
11. Get rid of the bicycle parking corral at J. Kahn Scott on Baltimore Avenue.
12. Possible area near the water tower at the end of Baltimore Avenue for bicycle racks or a parking station.
13. Locate long bike racks on the sidewalk and against the wall at Sammy's on Wilmington Avenue.

14. Talk with Alex Moore regarding placement of a bicycle rack at or near the Avenue Inn.

Discuss communication plan for motor scooter parking throughout the City.

There has been discussion about putting scooter parking on the parking and walking map. Stan Mills is in charge of that map, and he wants the information soon. The Committee finalize the motor scooter policy at this meeting because it needs to be distributed to Main Street, Rehoboth Beach/Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce, etc.

Suggestions that were made in order to finalize the policy:

1. Scooters with a permit may park on residential streets in permit parking areas.
2. Scooters may park in locations designated as Scooters Only such as at the ends of most beach blocks.
3. Scooters may park in locations designated as Scooters Only such as Deauville Beach.
4. Scooters may park in locations designated as Scooters Only such as at the lot designated as Martin's Lawn near the Senior Center on Christian Street.
5. Should not limit how many scooters can park in a metered parking space.
6. Remove permits available by mail.

Bill Sargent made a motion, seconded by Lorraine Zellers, to approve the policy with the changes incorporated this morning. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Permits are available from the Parking Meter Division located at 30½ Lake Avenue behind City Hall.

Bill Sargent made a motion, seconded by Cindy Lovett, that the Committee approve the additional change made to the policy that includes the Parking Division. Motion carried unanimously.

There has been an outcry about no scooter parking on Rehoboth Avenue. The City Manager said that scooter parking could be done if the Committee goes with the idea of providing parking at the last angled parking space near an intersection and use plastic bollards. Another suggestion was to possibly create corrals on intersecting streets at Rehoboth Avenue, but it was noted that First and Second Streets are too busy with vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Areas to be considered would be at Rehoboth Avenue and Second Street across from Conch Island and on the other side of Rehoboth Avenue. Although the ordinance says no scooter parking on the median strips, some of the Committee members thought that the use of the medians would be safer for scooter parking. Most of the members agreed to not try to add anything this year on Rehoboth Avenue.

Discuss procedure to be used for tracking of in-town motor scooter parking.

Lorraine provided a presentation on tracking metrics. Concerns were raised at the February Commissioners' Workshop Meeting about implementation of a new scooter policy without all the pieces in place. The ordinance was adopted at the Commissioners' March 15, 2013 Regular Meeting. Input was provided by June Embert of Parking Office. Her concern is about adding more tasks, especially more things to carry; and she requested that the Committee keep it simple and user-friendly. The parking meter enforcement officers walk the streets, and their current ticket writers can accommodate scooters. They can take an image of the violation including the tag number. With regard to designated scooter spaces and permit parking areas, only two enforcement officers ride bikes on the north side and south side. They patrol daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The number of circuits through the City they make depends on traffic and the day and time of the year. Options for tracking usage would be a tracking sheet which would be similar to bikes, a postcard mailer, cameras and action camcorders. The advantages of the tracking sheet are the ability for hourly recording, most cost effective and the City can print it. The disadvantages are that it is one more thing to carry and fill out, remembering and data would have to be transferred which would result in staff time. The advantages of a postcard mailer are input from actual users, simple and easy to complete, placement would be at various locations and it would be cost effective for the City to print. The disadvantages are that it requires time for completion, remembering to mail in or drop off and data needs to be transferred which would result in staff time. The advantages of cameras are reasonable costs and a variety of types, compact size and digital, programmable with a day/date/time stamp and downloadable. The disadvantages are that it is one more thing to carry, must stop and focus to take a picture, battery life and whether it is weather resistant. The advantages of action cameras are that they are compact and lightweight, costs are reasonable, can be attached to a bike frame or helmet, weatherproof case, downloadable and rechargeable, programmable with a day/date/time stamp and can take still or action shots so there is no need to get off of the bicycle. The disadvantages are training, battery life and staff time for recharging and downloading. Examples were provided of a tracking sheet, postcard mailer and models of action cameras.

The consensus of the Committee was that Bill would be the person to whom all the photographs and comments

would be emailed to. This would provide anecdotal evidence of whether or not the program is working. It was recommended that the Committee try to get a person from Main Street to help in this area. A survey or an area for comments may be provided on the City website for anyone to fill out. Pat will report this matter at the next Commissioners' meeting that the Committee is thinking more of an anecdotal approach to this program rather than a tracking approach for this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss and recommend idling ordinance.

John said that other municipalities have idling ordinances. He presented a proposed subsection to the City Code. Proposed Subsection 92-29. Idling of motorized vehicles that are parked, stopped or standing. No person shall park, stop or stand a vehicle with the motor idling for a period of more than five minutes except when controlled by a traffic light or at the direction of a police officer. The proposed ordinance would be directed more to residential areas.

Bill said there may be a problem with refrigerated trucks that make deliveries in the City. These particular trucks may turn off their engines but the compressors will need to stay running for cooling purposes.

Christine Hastings voiced concern regarding a Sysco truck that makes deliveries at First Street and Rehoboth Avenue. This truck impedes traffic dramatically on Saturdays because the driver lets the truck sit and he goes to lunch.

Pat suggested that the matter of delivery trucks in general would be placed on the next agenda. She has a meeting with a downtown business group that is trying use the Farmers' Market as a springboard to do Local Tuesday kinds of things. Pat will talk with them about this issue with the trucks, and maybe they can decide as a group on how to figure out this issue.

Bill said that making this an ordinance would be almost unenforceable in residential areas. Economics would drive this. Lorraine will look up other municipalities that have an idling ordinance.

DISCUSS ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON FUTURE AGENDAS.

Items to be included on the next agenda are: 1. Decision on whether motor scooter parking should be on the parking and walking map or a separate map. 2. Idling ordinance and looking at ordinances from other resort towns. 3. Discuss bicycling map and placement of additional bicycle racks. 4. Update preferred bicycle routes and discuss informational signage at the entrances to the City. 5. Discuss possibly placing more sharrows on designated roads this year such as Canal Street.

SET NEXT MEETING.

The next Committee meeting will be held on April 19, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

There being no further business, Cindy Lovett made a motion, seconded by Lorraine Zellers, to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(Ann M. Womack, CMC, City Secretary)

**MINUTES APPROVED ON
MAY 10, 2013**

(Pat Coluzzi, Chair)