

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

**May 2, 2011**

The Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting of the City of Rehoboth Beach was called to order at 11:04 a.m. by Co-Chair Pat Coluzzi on Monday, May 2, 2011 in the Commissioners Room in City Hall, 229 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Co-Chair Pat Coluzzi, Cindy Lovett, Lorraine Zellers, Kathy Osterholm, Jim Ellison

Absent: Co-Chair Dennis Barbour, John Gauger, Dennis Diehl

Audience: Ryan Mavity of Cape Gazette and a representative of Coast Press

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Lorraine Zellers made a motion, seconded by Jim Ellison, to approve the Agenda as amended with the deletion of the April 11, 2011 Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the March 18, 2011 and March 28, 2011 Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Minutes of the April 11, 2011 Streets and Transportation Committee Meetings were not available for approval.

Lorraine Zellers made a motion, seconded by Kathy Osterholm, to approve the March 18, 2011 Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Jim Ellison made a motion, seconded by Lorraine Zellers, to approve the March 28, 2011 Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was none.

**Discuss establishing a policy for 30-minute metered parking spaces.**

Cindy Lovett met with June and Mike of the Parking Meter Department. Several things were learned from the discussion: 1. 30-minute meters are not monitored because there is not enough staff. Basically 30-minute metered parking spaces are not being used for 30 minutes. She was not sure at this point if the City is getting any value out of 30-minute metered parking spaces. 2. The value of the 30-minute metered parking spaces needs to be studied for the City, guests and businesses. Data is available with the new meters, which is downloaded into a database. The comings and goings, fees, etc. can be monitored. Business owners need to be contacted for their input as to the value of the 30-minute metered parking spaces. There are seventeen 30-minute metered parking spaces at the Boardwalk area on Rehoboth Avenue. There are only four spaces past Third Street on Rehoboth Avenue. A 30-minute metered parking space is located in front of South Pacific Flower Shop which is located next to ReMax which is requesting a parking space. On the map that Cindy provided to the Committee, she had located handicapped spaces (shown with the letter H) and the loading areas (shown with the letter L). Cindy thought that a the seventeen 30-minute metered parking spaces should be reduced on Rehoboth Avenue and should be increased on Baltimore and Wilmington Avenues. No 30-minute metered parking spaces are located at the Boardwalk on Baltimore and Wilmington Avenues. Cindy asked if the business owner is getting the result he was hoping for if the parking spaces are not being used as a 30-minute metered parking space.

Pat said that historically all of the 30-minute metered parking spaces are there because they have been requested by business owners. A letter is sent to City Manager Greg Ferrese requesting a space, and he comes to the Commissioners for their vote on it. No criteria is required for a 30-minute metered parking space.

Kathy Osterholm talked with the parking meter technicians on the street, and their perspective was that four quarters would equal a half hour. If there is a 30-minute metered parking space available on Rehoboth Avenue, someone will park there and walk around the City whether that person will be walking around for 30 minutes or two hours. She learned from the parking meter technicians that the meters cannot be arbitrarily redone because there is a

process. There is no policy, and it has not been established as to how many 30-minute metered parking spaces there should be per a certain amount of regular metered parking spaces. Before adding any more 30-minute metered parking spaces, the Committee or the Commissioners should allow them to remain as is. The impression she got about the ReMax request is that ReMax has ample parking spaces. The parking meter technicians also told Kathy that the City pays for Park and Ride for any employee of any business in the City. The employees can go to Park and Ride and ride into the City for free. She felt that Rehoboth is a tourist town, and employees need to be encouraged to use Park and Ride. If not, then no more 30-minute metered parking spaces should be issued unless someone can prove that there is an absolute need for one.

Cindy said that until she can understand that these meters are a benefit to the City, she does not want more put in. If there is no reason to say no, then say yes to allow the 30-minute metered parking space. Every meter that is changed to 30-minute is one less long-term meter for guests. Pat said that the businesses should be concerned about that. Their employees are using the 30-minute metered parking spaces; and what was intended to help their businesses is not.

Jim said that if the businesses feel it is in their interest to have 30-minute metered parking spaces, then he did not see why this could not be easily approved. There are not that many 30-minute metered parking spaces. He did not see a substantial issue with this. Pat agreed. Jim noted that this discussion could take place when there are more members of the Committee present, but the leaning right now is toward not having a major issue here. A policy could also be developed to restrict any further 30-minute metered parking spaces where there is a high concentration of them in the first block of Rehoboth Avenue.

This item will be placed on the agenda for the next Committee meeting.

#### **Discuss crosswalk issues.**

Pat had presented to the Commissioners that the Committee was in agreement to have the concrete alongside of the pavers at the crosswalks on Rehoboth Avenue be painted white. Mayor Cooper was not in favor of this. He had suggested the pavers be cleaned first to see if that will brighten them up. Lorraine said that Greg had been in contact with the vendor to find out if there is bleach that would permeate the pavers. Pat noted that Carol Everhart of the Chamber of Commerce had suggested looking into replacing the pavers with reflective pavers. Not all of the Commissioners were in favor of the little yellow people signs to be placed in the middle of the road.

Cindy suggested using two to three reflectors on the outside of the crosswalks where vehicles do not travel.

Lorraine said that if the bleaching idea does not work, then painting will have to be the option. She was in favor of seeing the crosswalks more clearly.

Pat said that Dennis Barbour has other concerns regarding crosswalks; and part of it has to do with positioning of the crosswalks.

This item will be placed on the agenda for the next Committee meeting.

#### **Discuss RFP for pedestrian and bicycle master plan.**

Pat noted that the RFP for the master plan needs to be bid out. Pat and Jim will be working on the RFP and will present it at a future meeting.

#### **Other remarks from members and the public.**

Cindy said that on Easter Sunday there was a fourth impailment of a car on the island on the west side of the traffic circle. Four accidents have occurred there in three years.

#### **Discuss items to be included on future agendas.**

Items to be included on future agendas are: boxes which contain newspapers, flyers, etc. and permeable sidewalks.

Cindy said that a citizen had pointed out to her that the 10 boxes at the Boardwalk which contain newspapers, flyers, etc. look terrible, and half of them are empty. The boxes also look like they are in the way of pedestrian traffic. There are also 10 boxes in front of the post office and various other places in the City.

Lorraine has looked up information on permeable sidewalks with regard to doing a test area as discussed at a previous meeting.

**Set next meeting.**

The target date for the next meeting is June 13, 2011.

There being no further business, Co-Chair Pat Coluzzi declared the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**(Ann M. Womack, City Secretary)**

**MINUTES APPROVED ON  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2011**

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**(Pat Coluzzi, Chair)**