

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

December 20, 2013

The Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting of the City of Rehoboth Beach was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chair Bill Sargent on Friday, December 20, 2013 in the Commissioners Room in City Hall, 229 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Bill Sargent, Lorraine Zellers, Cindy Lovett, Kathy Osterholm, John Gauger (left the meeting at 10:14 a.m.), Dennis Diehl (left the meeting at 10:19 a.m.), Jim Ellison, Toni Sharp

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jim Ellison made a motion, seconded by Lorraine Zellers, to approve the Agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email from Frank Cooper regarding bicycle parking. This matter will be addressed under New Business at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Discuss any further ideas about general objectives of Committee.

The consensus of the Committee was that it should collectively discuss various issues and should pick at least one item each month that is topical for the Commissioners. After discussion at the Committee level, Toni Sharp, Lorraine Zellers and Bill will bring the issue before the Commissioners at the following Workshop Meeting. There was also consensus that the Committee will address and prioritize all of the items listed on the Possible Agenda Items document; and after discussion, some items may be identified and assigned to where they would be appropriately addressed. Letters from the Committee would be sent to the appropriate people asking them to address the issues.

Discuss priority items included on "Possible Agenda Items" document.

There was consensus of the Committee to determine and prioritize which items will be discussed at the January 2014 meeting. Each member of the Committee will prioritize the items on the document from 0-5 with 5 being the most important. The items with deadlines should be at the top of the lists. In the case where items are prioritized as 0, members can suggest who that particular item should be addressed by in the comment section of the document. After prioritizing the items, copies of the documents will be forwarded to Cindy Lovett by December 28, 2013 so a compilation can be done. Once the compilation is completed, Cindy will forward a copy to each member. The next step would be for the Committee to determine which items would be addressed at the meetings each month.

The Committee determined which five items will be discussed at the January 2014 meeting:

1. No. 16 – Consider adequacy of scooter parking in downtown and near beach areas – Lorraine.

Information from the tracking sheets will be needed from Mike Peterman. Commissioner Patrick Gossett may also have copies of those sheets. The Committee will need a tallied report.

2. No. 17 – Consider possible changes to scooter permit program – Lorraine.
3. No. 34 – Consider policies regarding skateboards – Kathy.
4. No. 7 - Consider marking bicycle lanes, sharrows and parking restrictions on Surf Avenue – Bill.

This item was originally put on the list to consider plan to widen 320 feet of Surf Avenue near Oak Avenue and to mark bicycle lanes. The project to widen 320 feet of Surf Avenue has been completed.

5. No. 11 – Consider adjusting date and time limits for bicycles on Boardwalk - Kathy.

Consider other possible tasks for 2014, such as update bicycle map, review informational signage, review bicycle parking program and review scooter program.

Bill had invited Stan Mills and Clint Bunting to be in attendance at the meeting. Stan was in the process of checking with the artist on whether or not it is feasible to combine the bicycle map and parking map into one map. Mayor Cooper was concerned with the cost of bike map. Jim Ellison cautioned the Committee that there is a tremendous amount of information on both the maps and to combine them would take a graphic miracle to make sense out of both of them. Bill will check with the artist if combining the maps can be done. The target date for printing of the maps will be the end of April 2014.

Jim and Lorraine will work on updating the bicycle map. Any suggestions from other Committee members should be forwarded to Jim and Lorraine for incorporation on the map. An update will be provided at the next meeting in January 2014.

With regard to informational signage, a suggestion was made to place a sign with a bike logo and directional arrow at the end of the sidewalk at Rehoboth Avenue and Canal Street. This sign would be for the bicyclists coming into the City to get them to turn right onto Canal Street instead of traveling further east on Rehoboth Avenue. The bike path has great value from Dewey to the City's parks and eventually to Lewes, but somehow there needs to be a way to get across Rehoboth Avenue from Canal Street to Grove Park. A suggestion was made to invite representatives from DelDOT to a future meeting to address what is being proposed near and at the traffic circle. Before going to Representative Schwartzkopf and Senator Lopez to push them to do something about this issue, it may be in the Committee's best interest to go directly to DelDOT and express its concerns. Then follow up with Representative Schwartzkopf and Senator Lopez that the Committee has met with DelDOT. The consensus of the Committee was for Bill to contact Mayor Sam Cooper and apprise him of this matter and possibly have this matter placed on the agenda for the Mayor and Commissioners Workshop Meeting in January 2014. This matter should be described as a creative exploration of alternative ideas to improve and maybe solve the problem on Rehoboth Avenue. It was also suggested that a study should be done by DelDOT of this area with regard to the vehicle traffic in season, bicycle traffic, pedestrians and potential new developments. Since the State is putting a lot of money into the bike trail, somehow a way needs to be figured out to continue the bike trail across Rehoboth Avenue. The State needs to solve this problem.

Signage has been placed on the sides of the seasonal restrooms at Funland to alert people to use the restrooms on Rehoboth Avenue. Kathy will check if the seasonal restrooms at Baltimore Avenue have any signs displayed.

With regard to the bicycle parking program, Frank Cooper had written a letter to point out that there is inadequate bicycle parking at the end of Prospect Street and the Boardwalk. More bicycle racks should be placed in that area. This item will be deferred to the January 2014 meeting. Also at the meeting in January 2014, each member will present their suggestions for additional bike racks and where they should be anchored. Cindy will look at the area in front of the Pelican Loft on Rehoboth Avenue to see if possible bicycle racks can be placed in the no parking area.

The consensus of the Committee was to defer reviewing of the scooter program to the January 2014 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss suggestion to consider removal of two parking spaces on Wilmington Avenue.

Clinton Bunting, business owner and President of Main Street Inc., had suggested that the Committee consider removal of two parking spaces on Wilmington Avenue which cause impeded sight lines and problems with delivery trucks when vehicles are parked there. The consensus of the Committee was that there are parking issues such as this on a lot of streets. Thirty to forty parking spaces could be lost due to increasing sight lines which would be a huge issue for the Commissioners to address. After discussion, the Committee determined that it should not tackle the removal of two parking spaces on Wilmington Avenue at this time. A note will be sent to Clinton advising him that the parking and line of sight problem is a widespread issue in the City.

Discuss items to be included on agenda for the next meeting.

Items to be included on the agenda for the next meeting have been previously noted.

Set next meeting date.

The next Committee meeting will be held on January 27, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Citizen Comments

There were none.

There being no further business, Chair Bill Sargent adjourned the meeting at 10:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

(Ann M. Womack, CMC, City Secretary)

**MINUTES APPROVED ON
JANUARY 27, 2014**

(Bill Sargent, Chair)