

**MINUTES
TRAFFIC AND SAFETY BOARD**

7:00 PM

Thursday

January 21, 2010

Chairperson Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Leppanen, Reynolds, Chiara, McGowan, Allyn (ex-officio), Nebus (ex-officio), Schulz (ex-officio)

ABSENT: DeCorte, Mehas

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

A motion was made by McGowan, seconded by Leppanen, to accept the minutes of the November 19, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Susan Mikolajczak (248-348-0407) presented information on a grant, funded by Henry Ford Medical Center, to study pedestrian walk areas. The study would address any improvements that could be made to assist visually impaired pedestrians. There would be no cost to the city for this study.

Carolyn Brown (23067 Frederick, Farmington) appeared at the meeting. Ms. Brown is a visually impaired person who spoke in favor of the study.

Ms. Mikolajczak was informed that the request would be presented to the city manager and that there were no funds set aside for improvements. If the study request is approved, a letter will be sent to Mary Ellen Daniel by the public safety department.

Grant contact person: Mary Ellen Daniel, Occupational Therapist
Henry Ford Medical Center – Livonia
29200 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, MI 48150
734-523-1070 (mdaniel1@hfhs.org)

OLD BUSINESS:

Board members were updated on the preliminary authorization to close Grand River for “Art on the Grand” by MDOT. The closure is scheduled for June 4th at 9:00 p.m. through June 6, 2010. A resolution by city council and detailed plan outlining detour and signing must still be presented to MDOT.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Grand River Business Parking

Board members were informed of parking complaints on Grand River and behind businesses on the north side of Grand River behind the Civic Theater. A letter was hand delivered to business owners advising them of complaints of three (3) hour parking violations and the city continues to evaluate parking issues. Several days after the letters were handed out, the public safety department issued several tickets for three (3) hour parking violations. The public safety department will continue to monitor.

Alta Loma Curve Accidents

A resident of Alta Loma (Larry Prieur, 33730 Alta Loma, 248-476-1314, met with Director Nebus on January 4, 2010) complained about numerous accidents when the road is snow/ice covered. He reported vehicles westbound lose control going through the curves and end up in his front yard.

Dave Allyn reports only one (1) reported accident from 2000 to 2009 involving westbound vehicles at this location. The public services department will salt the area when plowing subdivision streets.

Mr. Allyn suggested that a "Ball Bank Indicator" test be conducted. This test helps determine if the curve can be safely traveled at the posted speed limit.

Board members will review this matter again when test results are available.

Library Drop Box

City officials and TIA Engineer Bob DeCorte spoke with library director, Tina Theeke, about the location of the drop box. There is a concern about the number of drivers not putting the vehicle in "park" before exiting to drop off books. Also, drivers dropping off books stop right at the entrance, creating a concern for the safety of people leaving the library. Library staff did not like the suggested relocation of the drop off box to the island at the north end of the parking lot. Library staff will continue to evaluate other locations that the drop off box could be located. At this time, there will be no further action taken by the Traffic and Safety Board. Director Nebus has informed Director Theeke that the traffic engineer or traffic board remains willing to assist as alternate drop box locations are considered.

Election

Mr. Chiara was nominated for Chairperson, Mr. McGowan was nominated for Vice-Chairperson. Motion to recommend nominations was made by Mr. Reynolds and seconded by Mr. Leppanen. Motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Mr. Chiara expressed concern about vehicles turning left into the T.J. Maxx parking lot

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from Grand River. The board did not have a concern and there is no history of accidents as a result of left turns.

Mr. Chiara expressed a concern that there is inadequate advance notice of signage for eastbound Grand River traffic forced to turn right (south) on Grand River. Mr. Allyn will review the current signage and determine if more signs are needed.

Duane Reynolds was awarded a certificate for twenty (20) years of service with the Traffic and Safety Board.

Mr. Reynolds thanked the director for his years of service and commitment to the Traffic and Safety Board.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Chiara and seconded by Leppanen to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting concluded at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Schulz
Deputy Director