

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

**April 27, 2015**

The Streets and Transportation Committee Meeting of the City of Rehoboth Beach was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair Bill Sargent on Monday, April 27, 2015 in the Commissioners Room in City Hall, 229 Rehoboth Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Also Present: City Manager Sharon Lynn, Police Chief Keith Banks (left the meeting at 10:15 a.m.)

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Jim Ellison made a motion, seconded by Toni Sharp, to approve the Agenda with the deletion of the November 24, 2014, December 29, 2014 and January 26, 2015 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of October 27, 2014, February 23, 2015 and March 23, 2015 Streets & Transportation Committee Meetings were distributed prior to the meeting. Minutes of the November 24, 2014, December 29, 2014 and January 26, 2015 Streets & Transportation Committee Meetings were not available for approval.

Jim Ellison made a motion, seconded by Lorraine Zellers, to approve the October 27, 2014 Streets & Transportation Committee Meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Jim Ellison made a motion, seconded by Toni Sharp, to approve the February 23, 2015 Streets & Transportation Committee Meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Toni Sharp made a motion, seconded by Lorraine Zellers, to approve the March 23, 2015 Streets & Transportation Committee Meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was none.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Discuss status of speed control devices on Hickman Street.**

Police Chief Keith Banks reported that the speed control devices have been installed and are working properly. They have been synchronized with the ones on Columbia Avenue.

Lorraine Zellers reported that the Board of Directors of the Country Club Estates Homeowners' Association held a meeting on Hickman Street on April 25, 2015, and there were positive comments about the speed control devices.

**Discuss status of proposed additional crosswalks and silent policemen.**

Police Chief Banks noted that a presentation was made by Bill Sargent at the last Commissioners Workshop Meeting, and it was decided that the City Manager will be working on this issue with the City engineer. The Chief of the Fire Department had contacted Police Chief Banks and stated that he is not in favor of silent policemen at the first block of Baltimore or Maryland Avenues, but he is in favor of a crosswalk. With regard to Lake and Surf Avenues, Mayor Cooper said at the Workshop Meeting that the engineer will need to look at that entire area. City Manager Sharon Lynn will need to follow up on this matter.

Cindy Lovett questioned what is going to be done about the missing crosswalk on Rehoboth Avenue at the restrooms near the Boardwalk. That is the busiest area in the City, and people get stranded on the northern part of the island and cannot cross street in a crosswalk. Jim Ellison agreed that an expectation is set up by having a crosswalk, but it only goes halfway across. Bill noted that there is not an adequate curb-cut, and there is a problem with putting a crosswalk on the westbound lane at the restrooms. The State would need to be involved in this matter. Cindy noted that she will provide photographs at a future meeting.

Walter Brittingham, 123 Henlopen Avenue, said that there is an island with no exits going from First Street toward the Boardwalk. A terminus is needed for a crosswalk. A curb-cut would need to be done on the north side of the island which needs a bump-out to receive the crosswalk on the other side of the street. All of that engineering as well as on Surf and Lake Avenues can be gotten for free from DelDOT. A crosswalk is needed at Rehoboth Avenue and Fourth Street.

**Discuss possible improvements to Surf Avenue.**

A letter was received from Kenny Lingo in favor of silent policemen, etc. at Surf and Lake Avenues. He had an issue with parking too close to the curve on the west side of Surf Avenue and sight lines. Bill Sargent noted that City Manager Lynn has suggested that the entire area of Surf Avenue and the curve may be re-engineered. She has been talking with an engineering firm to getting a traffic engineer to look at this matter. Kenny Lingo also had an issue with the traffic at the Henlopen Condominiums and the exit onto Lake Avenue. He would like the arrows placed back in the triangle area at the island to eliminate confusion as to which way to go.

Walter Brittingham said that the railroad ties on the triangle at the Henlopen Hotel should be painted. Police Chief Banks said that he and City Manager Lynn will review this area next week.

**Discuss proposed Bicycle Friendly Street Guide for 2015.**

Jim Ellison had received notification last week that the City Manager has signed a contract with the design group. He has a meeting tomorrow for the design of Bike Friendly Map which will show the safe streets orientation. Once Jim has the design, he would like to send it to the Committee members for their review and have them forward their comments back to him. A qr code will be provided on the map.

**Discuss status of Bike Patrol.**

Police Chief Banks has met with his training officer of the bicycle unit and Frank Cole regarding the bike patrol. As of two weeks ago, Frank only had four volunteers. He has the bicycles and the possibility of using walkie talkies. Two volunteers will be on the Boardwalk seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. A police officer will be on a bike on the Boardwalk from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. each day. Some of the volunteers will be sent to bike training which starts this weekend. Another meeting is scheduled before the season starts for training purposes, proper equipment and courtesy notices, literature, maps and information to give out. Police Chief Banks will meet with Frank seven days per week once the season starts. Uniforms have not been ordered to date, but the program is moving forward.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discuss potential City gateway issues and possible solutions.**

Jim Ellison said that at the last meeting, there was the notion of a high level meeting with the Mayor and representatives of DelDOT and DNREC to try to deal with some of the issues around streets that are basically controlled by the State, etc. He distributed a list of issues to the Committee members for their review. Issues include: 1. Traffic flow on Rehoboth Avenue and the possibility of delay traffic signals during the summer season. 2. Surf Avenue is dangerous to bicycles. 3. Parking and standing near the curve and southbound traffic on Surf Avenue. 4. Crosswalk continuation at the turn-around in the first block of Rehoboth Avenue. Possible solutions would be discussed between the Mayor, representatives from this Committee and representatives of DelDOT and DNREC.

Toni Sharp, Jim Ellison and Bill Sargent will talk with the Mayor on the gateway issues prior to the meeting with representatives of DelDOT and DNREC.

**Discuss plans to maintain/repair City streets.**

This item will be deferred to the next meeting.

**Discuss possibility of being accredited as a Bicycle Friendly City by the League of American Bicyclists.**

Karen Zakarian provided copies of the Attributes of a Bicycle Friendly Community to the Committee members for their review. The Committee is trying to make Rehoboth a bicycle friendly community. It would be great to get recognition, and it would help tourism. There is an application process which is required for this recognition.

Committee members voiced concern about what the intended and unintended consequences might be. There would be a lot of work put into being a part of this accreditation. There would be a lot of criteria that the City would need to match of which there would be ratings at the end. Members would like to aspire to get to the top of the list because all bases would be covered rather than just applying for the accreditation. The majority of the members

were not ready to make a decision on this matter before reviewing all of the information. Many of the items need to be discussed before moving forward.

Bill Sargent said that the League is the rating agency which put Delaware as No. 4 in the nation. Becoming a Bicycle Friendly City would be joining at a local level to the national program that the Governor is behind.

This item will be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

**Discuss possibility of a lighted speed sign on the Rehoboth Avenue approach to the Circle.**

Cindy Lovett had a meeting with City Manager Lynn and Police Chief Banks to discuss the possibility of a lighted speed sign on the Rehoboth Avenue approach to the Circle. Both the City Manager and the Police Chief support this idea. He would like the sign to be placed further out from the Circle, such as outside of the City proper. Because Rehoboth Avenue is a state road, funding may be provided by the State.

The consensus of the Committee members was to move forward with the lighted speed sign.

Walter Brittingham said that if the sign is placed outside of the City, it is DelDOT's responsibility. The sign needs to be in the City at the roundabout looking out. This matter should be approved by the Commissioners.

This item will be added to the list when Toni Sharp, Jim Ellison and Bill Sargent talk with the Mayor regarding gateway issues.

**DISCUSS ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING.**

An item to be included on the next agenda is: 1. Discuss status of Bike Patrol. 2. Discuss plans to maintain/repair City streets. 3. Discuss possibility of being accredited as a Bicycle Friendly City by the League of American Bicyclists.

Items to be included on a future agenda are: 1. Discuss proposed additional crosswalks and silent policemen on Rehoboth Avenue.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Lorraine Zellers noted that with regard to the Bloom Committee, the City Manager has contracted with a part-time horticulturist who is scheduled to start in mid-May 2015. This particular person is also a certified arborist.

**CITIZEN COMMENT**

Karen Zakarian will provide copies of the most current state bike map to the members of the Committee.

**SET NEXT MEETING DATE.**

The next meeting will be held on May 18, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

There being no further business, Chair Bill Sargent adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

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

**MINUTES APPROVED ON  
FEBRUARY 1, 2016**

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**(Lorraine Zellers, Acting Chair)**