2019 Traffic Safety Committee

Minutes for September 18, 2019

Called to order 10:05 am by Chair Beltis

Members present: Jerry Beltis, Aram Goshgarian, , Linda Cebula, Jerry Scannell

Others present:, Charleen Greenhailgh, Fran Salewski, Paul Gazaille, Chris Nickerson

Note: minutes follow order of posted agenda

1. Call to order 10 am

2 Approval of minutes from June 19, 2019. Motion to approve Goshgarian, second by Cebula.

 Approved 4-0.

3 no correspondence

4 Old Business

a. Chatham Road and Route 39

Ryder is looking for the engineering review that had been done this past year. Project did not make the Capital Plan for the May 2019 meeting. Motion made to complete a capital plan application by Beltis, seconded by Scannell, approved 4-0.

b. Pleasant/Miles/South additional sign closer to intersection of Miles/Pleasant, new shark’s teeth in road. New telephone pole. Next step is Eversource to move the wires, then the road can be slightly widened.

c. Pleasant Bay Road and rt 39 burm is done. Will wait to see of anything additional needs to be considered

d. Neel Road/Rt 28. Line of site issue. State road, we cannot make changes.

e. No further discussion on inclusion in Capital Plan. Item closed,

5. New Business

a. Draft policy on Traffic Calming

Planning Director Greenhailgh , Cebula and Scannell crafted the draft policy. Policy effectively would bar speed bumps/humps on Harwich public roads. Chief Guillemette has advised the committee that he would prefer not to have these on our streets. Nickerson noted that the screw/anchor used to fasten to the street perforates the pavement: will there be water damage? Corrosion to road surface? unknown at this point. Still no clear answer as to who has liability if a vehicle is damaged going over a bump/hump.

Motion to send the policy as drafted to Board of Selectmen for their review and hopefully adoption

by Scannell, second by Goshgarian approved 4-0

b. Freeman Street/ Route 28 line of site issue

Nickerson to check with Hooper about any plans that show the town right of way. Scannell reported that most crashes are from Snow Inn Road crossing rte 28 to Freeman Street. Primarily the vegetation that has grown into the right of way and too close to the road creates difficulty in driver ability to see traffic. Harwich does have a line of site by-law but there does not seem to be a process/procedure to require property owners to comply. While all would prefer the “soft conversation” there does become a point where enforcement must take place. Nickerson will obtain and forward to Beltis some policies on this , and the committee may draft a policy for consideration by BOS.

c.. see b above.

d. Bikeways Committee and support for additional crossing lights

Committee ready to submit application to CPC and are looking for our support. Discussion on gathering of bikers at the intersection makes the lights ineffective. Dulls the impact of the warning for the motorist. Possibility of signage at the crossing areas to wait further back, and basic rules for use of the trails. Nickerson noted that there is a great deal of maintenance on the lights that impact DPW budgets, rain can set the lights off, electronic issues. After discussion on priorities presented by Bikeways representatives Selewski and Gazaille, there was a motion to support by Scannell second by Goshgarian, approved 4-0.

Cebula to do letter of support to the Bikeways Committee.

e. Exits 10/11 Harwich to route 6

After some discussion on the traffic issues ( ability to merge principally) Beltis will follow up with Steve Tupper/County on crash and accident data, and ask what we can do to help move the corrections needed for route 6.

f. Other business

Beltis motioned to name Cebula as Vice Chair, second by Goshgarian approved 3-0-1 ( Cebula)

Adjournment 11:57 am

Minutes by Linda Cebula, Clerk Minute approved 11/12/2019