

**BRATTLEBORO TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2012 – 8:30AM
MINUTES**

Members present: Town Manager Barb Sondag, Public Works Director Steve Barrett, Police Chief Gene Wrinn, Fire Chief Mike Bucossi, Planning Director Rod Francis, Robert Immler as Citizen Representative, and Leo Schiff as Chamber of Commerce Representative.

Selectboard representative present: David Gartenstein.

Others present: Timothy F. Little, Kelly Price, Donna Zhao, Trudy Fleming, Marie Tattersall, Susan J. Avery, Alan N. Scott, John Webster, Matt Mann, Terry A. Carter, Teta Hilsdon, Dianne Shapiro, Robert Rottenberg, and others who did not sign the attendance sheet.

Town Manager Sondag called the meeting to order at 8:34am in the Selectboard meeting room. She confirmed that the meeting was properly warned. Minutes from the August 8, 2012 special meeting were presented.

**MOTION BY GENE WRINN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 8, 2012 MEETING.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Public Participation – John Webster proposed to place yellow cones in the center of the crosswalks near the post office on Main Street to warn drivers about pedestrian crossing.

Paint-the-Pavement Project – *Cedar and Myrtle Streets*. Sondag discussed a draft paint-the-pavement (p-t-p) projects outline and procedure. She said that some of the notable provisions were that p-t-p projects would be considered neighborhood-building projects (not traffic calming), would be limited to local service streets, have design and placement limitations, be subject to revocation by the Town, would require site approval which was at the discretion of the Public Works Director and Police Chief, and would be subject to neighborhood approval and participation. She said that the neighborhood would designate a primary contact person who would submit the application, agreement and design and who would assume obligation and responsibility for obtaining street blocking permits, notification to and communication with residents, and repair, maintenance and removal of the street mural. There was discussion by the Committee about the draft policy, possible nuisances, removal and touch-up of the street mural, term length of the permit, definition of low traffic area, allowable speed limits, estimated traffic counts, and having a relaxed re-application process at the administrative level. There was further discussion about the specific Cedar/Myrtle p-t-p pilot project and timeline. After some discussion, it was decided by the Committee that the agreement should include restrictions that p-t-p projects be restricted to Class 3 roadways (as defined by the State of Vermont) with speed limits of up to 25 mph, term limits of one year with the ability to renew it with administrative approval, and that it should contain provisions for the removal of the street mural. The Committee agreed to submit the draft proposal to the Selectboard at its next meeting.

MOTION BY DAVID GARTENSTEIN, AND SECONDED, TO RECOMMEND TO THE SELECTBOARD CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE PAINT-THE-PAVEMENT PROJECT PROGRAM OUTLINED, WITH ATTACHMENTS AS PRESENTED WITH THE REVISIONS AS DISCUSSED, AND TO ALSO APPROVE THE CEDAR AND MYRTLE STREET PROJECT AS A PILOT PROJECT IF IT CONFORMS WITH THE GUIDELINES THAT ARE ADOPTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program – There was a brief discussion about determining criteria and establishing a town-wide model for traffic calming procedures. A citizen inquired about the possibility of installing a stop sign in the middle of the block on Bullock Street to slow traffic. Terry Carter inquired about installing a speed table on Putney Road at the intersection of Harris Avenue. There was a brief discussion by the Committee about determining a town-wide approach for traffic calming policies. It was decided to reschedule the discussion for the next committee meeting.

Whetstone Drive Intersection – Sondag said that residents of Whetstone Village were present to address their concerns regarding the intersection of Whetstone Drive and Williams Street. A resident spoke about

the dangers at the intersection and speed of traffic on Williams Street. He requested some resolution to slow traffic down and reduce the danger at the intersection. Sue Avery read letters from two residents about their concerns, including the blind sightline, speeding traffic, heightened guardrails, and near-miss accidents. The residents suggested installing temporary speed bumps and/or stop signs or traffic lights at the Whetstone Drive intersection and other nearby intersections. Marie Tattersall spoke about the excessive traffic speed on Williams Street. There was further discussion about the ongoing problem at the intersection, including past conversations with the developer about placement of the private drive, heightened bridge railing due to new regulations, and installation and maintenance of mirrors. There was also discussion about other possible improvements including removing ledge and brush around a corner, elevating the private roadway, installing rumble strips and speed bumps on Williams Street, and limiting access to Williams Street to local traffic only. It was agreed by the Committee to perform a site visit at the intersection of Williams Street and Whetstone Drive at the next Traffic Safety meeting on September 25 at 8:00am. Sondag suggested that future discussions also include the intersection at Crosby Street and Williams Street.

OTHER BUSINESS

Gartenstein asked the Committee to consider the request made at public participation about the longstanding concerns regarding two crosswalks on Main Street on either side of post office. There was a brief discussion including discussing those crosswalks in the town-wide traffic calming program and/or during the sidewalk improvement project.

There was no further business.

**MOTION BY DAVID GARTENSTEIN, AND SECONDED BY STEVE BARRETT, TO ADJOURN.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**