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Town of Plaistow – Highway Safety Advisory Committee
145 Main Street, Plaistow, NH 03865

PLAISTOW HIGHWAY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: June 15, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: 9:35 AM

ROLL CALL: Police Chief Kathleen Jones, *Chair*; Fire Chief John McArdle, *Vice Chair*; Daniel Garlington, *Highway Department Supervisor*; Michael Dorman, *Chief Building Official*; Dee Voss, *Planning Coordinator*; Julian Kiszka, *Selectmen Representative*; Michelle Auger, *Pollard School Principal*; Lisa Withee, *Citizen's Representative*; Richard Latham, *Citizen's Representative*; Arthur Wiggin, *Citizen's Representative* and Sam Cafiso, *Alternate Citizen's Representative*

EXCUSED: None

ABSENT: None

MINUTES

D. Garlington moved, second by M. Auger, to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2018 meeting. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 10-0-1 (J. Kiszka abstaining).

NEW BUSINESS

Nicole McKinney, 3 Hillcrest Ave, speeding traffic on Hillcrest. Ms. McKinney expressed concern that since the 55+ community was built there has been an increase in traffic and speeding on Hillcrest. A number of letters from Hillcrest Ave residents were provided to the Committee. Ms. McKinney noted that there are a number of families on Hillcrest with small children and asked if it were possible to post signs or reduce the speed limit on the road. D. Garlington explained that he would have to post the road for 30 mph so it was probably better to not post the speed limit. He also noted that other signage such as "slow children" are initially effective, but then drivers become complacent to them. Suggestions were made that Ms. McKinney contact the HOA for Snow's Brook and make them aware of the problem in hopes that they would speak to the residents. K. Jones offered to assist Ms. McKinney if she needed help speaking to the Snow's Brook HOA. K. Jones will keep in contact with N. McKinney for follow-up as needed.

Speeding and Littering on Jesse George Road. It was noted that this matter was discussed at the last meeting and it was determined that this section of road provides a

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turnaround for trucks and vehicles needing to reverse direction on Route 125. Police have taken notice of traffic and have not witnessed any drivers taking a left out of Jesse George onto Route 125 on the wrong side of the road. There is not enough evidence that this is an issue that would warrant a change.

Request for Handicap Child Sign on Jesse George Road. It was noted that there is an eight (8) year old, third grader, who lives on Jesse George Road. J. Kiszka had received an email requesting signage be installed to caution motorists. It was suggested that the Highway Safety Committee send a letter of recommendation to the Board of Selectmen, as they are the one who can grant this request.

M. Dorman moved, second by M. Auger, to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that "handicap child" signs be placed at either end of Jesse George Road (the section between Route 125 and Old Road). There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 11-0-0 U/A.

Renewing member appointments to the Committee. K. Jones noted that the Charter has been updated. Members will be re-appointed for two-year terms. If there are any members who do not wish to be re-appointed they should contact K. Jones in writing. The chair and vice chair positions will be voted on at the December highway Safety Committee meeting.

There was discussion about whether or not the schools needed to attend the Committee meetings unless there was something related on the agenda. It was noted that they are always welcome.

OLD BUSINESS

Residents request for street lighting at Village Way. It was explained that Unitil was recommending that a new fixture be adding to the existing pole across the street from Village Way to provide the lighting that the residents were seeking. It was also noted that sight lines when exiting Village Way were difficult so the additional lighting could be beneficial.

J. McArdle moved, second by M. Dorman, to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that they follow Unitil's recommendations regarding installation of a new street light fixture across from Village Way.

Discussion: J. Kiszka asked if it were possible to recommend the type of fixture that gets installed. D. Garlington offered that Unitil will most likely install whatever fixture they have available in their inventory.

There was no additional discussion. The vote was 11-0-0 U/A.

Updated on Smith Corner Road trucking. There's been an increase in patrol and enforcement on Smith Corner Road, however, it hasn't shown that there is a large

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number of trucks using the road. D. Garlington has checked the culvert(s) on Smith Corner Road and will continue to monitor the situation. K. Jones added that they didn't have the right to prohibit trucking on the road as it is a through road into Newton.

Updated on Westville Road Bridge project. D. Voss noted that the Westville Road Bridge project will be put off until 2019. The bidding process was started so late in the year due to delays at the DOT level that the Town was not able to get competitive bids. The project will be re-bid in February 2019.

Update on Safe Routes to Schools project. D. Voss explained that the project has been awarded to J. Parker and Daughters from Pittsfield NH. Construction will begin on June 25, right after Old Home Day. The contract calls for substantial completion by August 29, with final completion within fifteen (15) days. It was also noted that school starts August 30.

ACTION ITEMS

There was a brief discussion about the drainage at Pollard and Congressional Roads. D. Garlington offered that this and the Smith Corner Road drainage should be taken off the Committee's Action Item list.

K. Jones provided the latest traffic statistics.

The next meeting will be September 14, 2018 at the Public Safety Complex.

There was no additional business before the committee and the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Dee Voss
Plaistow Planning Coordinator