

(APPROVED)



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

PLAISTOW HIGHWAY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

MEETING DATE – Friday, March 15, 2019

PRESENT – Michael Dorman, Interim Chairman; Dan Garlington, *Highway Department Supervisor*; John Cashell, *Planning Director*; Dee Voss, *Admin Assistant Planning Department*; Julian Kiszka, *Board of Selectmen Representative*; Michelle Auger, *Pollard School Principal*; Thomas Geary, *SAU Representative*; Lisa Withee, *Citizen's Representative*; Richard Latham, *Citizen's Representative*; Sam Cafiso, *Alternate Citizen's Representative*; Douglas P. Mullin, *Interim Chief of Police*; and Michael Kennedy, *Interim Fire Chief*

EXCUSED – None

ABSENT – Arthur Wiggin, *Citizen's Representative*

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - 9:30 a.m.

MINUTES – D. Voss motions to approve the minutes of 12/14/2018. Seconded by D. Garlington. No comments or discussion.
Vote 9/0/3 (L. Withee, D. Mullin and M. Kennedy abstaining).
Motion passes.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None

NEW BUSINESS – Westville Road bridge reconstruction.

D. Voss briefs everyone on the status of the reconstruction of the Westville Road bridge and how the Town is waiting for the state to approve the bids. Indicates that the bridge will be shut down in the summer to avoid conflict with the school and bus routes. M. Auger mentions that Pollard School will be hosting the extended school year. D. Voss states that they have already been placed on alert. D. Garlington questions if there will be a pre-construction meeting. D. Voss confirms there will be and Police/Fire/Highway will all be notified.

OLD BUSINESS – Update on Safe Routes to School

D. Voss indicates that they will be cleaning up a few items to include drainage issues and landscaping to close the project out.

R. Latham asks about any other grants available to complete what wasn't done. D. Voss indicates how she believes T. Moore was looking into one for 2022 for a similar grant to extend sidewalks further.

R. Latham mentions the intersection at Palmer Avenue. M. Dorman states that NH DOT has to engineer the entire intersection before making any changes and/or eliminate the island. Further speaks about his conversation with NH DOT a year ago on this matter. D. Garlington indicates that the state doesn't own Palmer Avenue, Kingston Road, or Elm Street.

M. Dorman mentions the crosswalk sign that's missing by the Town Hall, if it can be included when they take care of the drainage and landscaping.

(APPROVED)

OLD BUSINESS – Discuss signs at Jesse George Road and Old Road

S. Cafiso mentions how this was brought up at the Board of Selectmen meeting last week. A Selectman asked that it be put back to where it used to be at the end of Old Road where it merges with Jesse George Road. M. Dorman inquires if they were looking for a recommendation from the Committee. S. Cafiso states that it was mentioned during the Selectmen's report. S. Cafiso agrees about moving it back. M. Dorman asks if the Committee's in agreement and wants to make a recommendation. J. Cashell mentions how both traveling lanes see the sign, but if moved to the other road, only one lane will see it. D. Garlington mentions how it was originally changed after it was brought to the Committee's attention and a recommendation was made to the Board of Selectmen to change it.

D. Garlington mentions the plans for Exeter Med. D. Voss states that they won't have access to Jesse George Road, only Old Road. M. Dorman mentions a back entrance onto Old Road off the site. D. Voss states that the main access will be a lighted intersection on Route 125. D. Voss suggest possibly waiting until Exeter Med is in before moving the sign.

M. Auger motions that after careful consideration, the Committee rescind their original recommendation to the Board of Selectmen and to move the sign back to where it was originally.
Motion seconded by R. Latham.

J. Kiszka speaks about the confusion of whether they're moving the right of away or the sign. M. Dorman states that nothing has changed but the placement of the sign. M. Dorman confirms Jesse George Road has the right of way. No further discussion.

Vote 11/0/1 (D. Garlington abstained).
Motion passes.

ACTION ITEMS – #1. Quarterly traffic statistics from radar panels. Reports distributed for full year.

D. Mullin speaks about the statistics and believes they will see a dramatic increase in summons and stops moving forward. Mentions the unmarked vehicles being utilized when there is a marked unit also on patrol and how they'll be used on a more regular daily basis. Also states how using the unmarked vehicles he's also spreading the maintenance over a larger group of vehicles.

L. Withee asks for clarification, if it's because more officers will be on patrol that there will be an increase. D. Mullin explains that with the unmarked units they are not as visible to the public like the marked units are so drivers are less likely to hit their brakes like they do with marked units.

OTHER BUSINESS -

L. Withee mentions the trash barrels in the road again, she observed it this morning on Harriman Road. M. Dorman will inform B. Hossack.

D. Mullin mentions the truck issues he's observed in Town. Briefs the Committee on his experience and training with truck enforcement. M. Dorman asks if he could define the problem. D. Mullin indicates overweight trucks and speeding. Informs the Committee of L. Millette's concern on Smith Corner Road and request for no-thru trucking. D. Mullin states that he will be working with the NH State Police Truck Enforcement Unit with portable scales and spending time enforcing truck traffic. Further mentions how he'll be working with them directly to assist them in addressing this matter throughout Town. Believes once they begin enforcement, voluntarily compliance should follow. T. Geary questions the location of the stops and whether it's done on the side of the road. D. Mullin states that they are not done on the road but in areas like the park-n-ride.

(APPROVED)

R. Latham questions if the NH State Police will issue the citations. D. Mullin confirms they will and how he could issue some as well. Also mentions his intention to train some the department's officers while doing these enforcements.

L. Withee questions if Forrest Street is still no-thru trucking. D. Garlington confirms it is.

L. Withee speaks about speeding issues on Forrest Street and if directed patrols are done during the busy times such as the morning when kids are waiting for buses. D. Mullin states that the unmarked units will be on the road and if he gets a complaint, he'll send a unit over for directed patrols. L. Withee would like to see Plaistow recognized as a Town you don't drive over the speed limit. D. Mullin explains that you don't want heavy handed enforcement especially on Town residents.

M. Dorman speaks about some projects including:

- Hospital building on the old Eggie's site;
- Pro Quip's proposed project at the Sanborn Candies site;
- Preliminary project on the Haverhill line; and
- Subdivisions.

S. Cafiso mentions the no left turn out of Pollard School and explains how cars that want to travel north are turning into Davis Park at the Historical Society. Mentions that some drive the entire loop at Davis Park, others turn around in Hill's Insurance driveway, and the rest make U-turns in front of the Historical Society in the road. T. Geary suggests sending the parents a note regarding this. S. Cafiso mentions how it's dangerous making U-turns in the roadway and how it impacts traffic. M. Auger explains that notes are sent out a few times a year. Also mentions that she doesn't see many people doing this but knows it does occur. Suggests a patrol unit out in the area to help deter this from happening. S. Cafiso mentions that when a cone was left in the area before, cars were not able to make the U-turn with the cone in the way.

R. Latham mentions the shop going in at the location of Jimmy K's restaurant and the traffic it could bring. D. Voss states the traffic will be on a State road the Town doesn't have control on. Brief discussion on the slip lane and state road for access for tractor trailers. T. Geary mentions his conversations with Haverhill and the off-site parking with shuttle service that might be required for the shop.

J. Cashell mentions the intersection when exiting Town onto Route 125 from southern Main Street and where there is no exclusive left turn. He suggests if the Town is looking to upgrade an intersection how critical this one is. M. Dorman mentions that it's a state road and was already widened up to the property lines up to and including taking some property.

J. Cashell speaks about a few items with Planning Board;

- Updating Master Plan;
- Working with regional planning agency to update the Town's build-out analysis;
- Reviewing Route 125 corridor for road improvements;
- Water coming into Town;
- Options to get sewer in along Route 125 from Haverhill to help enhance potential revenue production in developments; and
- Mixing uses along the corridor of Route 125.

D. Voss explains the build-out analysis of the entire Town and how they create what-if scenarios if the Town had water and/or sewer. Explains the goal to enhance the Route 125 corridor. D. Garlington states that the last time the analysis was done the Town did have the elderly housing. J. Cashell states the importance of doing the build-out analysis and how it's a long-term goal well beyond 20-years.

(APPROVED)

T. Geary mentions the traffic counters placed on Greenough Road and would like the counts for the next Highway Safety Committee meeting.

M. Dorman mentions that the flashers were not working at Pollard School this morning. T. Geary will have somebody look into it.

ADJOURNMENT- D. Garlington motions to adjourn. Seconded by L. Withee.

Vote 12/0/0

Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am

NEXT MEETING DATES –

June 14, 2019 @ 9:30 am

September 13, 2019 @ 9:30 am

December 13, 2019 @ 9:30 am

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Gibbs,
Recording Secretary