

## **DERRY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Minutes for April 19, 2018



COMMITTEE MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT
Scott Savard, Chairman	X	
Walter Deyo, Co-Chair	X	
Ed Garone, Derry Police		X
Mike Gagnon, Derry Fire Dept.	X	
Jane Simard, Derry School Dept.	X	
Randall Chase	X	
Jim Roddy	X	
Ronald Goldthwaite	X	
Vacant		
Alan Côté, DPW	X	
David Kelley (School Dept Alt)		
George Feole (Police Alt)	X	
Scott Jackson ( Fire Alt)		
Mike Fowler (DPW Alt)		

A monthly meeting of the Derry Highway Safety Committee was held Thursday, April 19, 2018 at the Derry Municipal Building Center. Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Ronald Goldthwaite made a motion to approve the March 15, 2018 minutes as amended.  
Seconded by Jim Roddy**

**MOTION PASSED (5 – 0 – 4)** Ronald Goldthwaite, Mike Gagnon, Randy Chase, and Alan Cote abstained.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

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## **NEW BUSINESS**

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### **Kristin Wethington – 3-Way Stop – Ash St Ext @ No. High St**

The Committee read Ms. Wethington's concern.

George Feole went over the 6 accidents that occurred over the past 2 years at that location. (2 accidents were caused by motorists following too closely, 2 motorists failed to yield, 1 motorist fell asleep at the wheel, and 1 failed to negotiate the turn)

Alan Cote stated from a practical standpoint this intersection didn't meet the guidelines for installing a 3-way stop. There was ample sight distance. He was not in favor of installing a 3-Way Stop at this location.

Scott Savard questioned if a traffic study has been done in this area.

Alan Cote stated that most of the traffic coming down North High St from the Police Station, they are primarily taking a right onto Ash St Ext to go to Londonderry. This allows the traffic coming down Ash St Ext to take a left onto North High St fairly easy.

Scott Savard asked what would happen after Exit 4A is built.

Alan Cote stated that once Exit 4A is opened, most of the traffic will continue and exit off Madden Hill Rd onto North High St, which will significantly reduce the traffic going down Ash Street Ext.

Mike Gagnon stated that the concern has gotten worse since the Market Basket entrance has been completed on Pillsbury Rd.

**Alan Cote a motion to install a 3-Way Stop at North High St @ Ash St Ext.**

**Second by: Randy Chase**

**MOTION FAILED (0 – 9)**

**Derek Scheer – 3 Way Stop – North Shore Rd @ Mundy Ln  
North Shore Rd @ Worthley Rd  
North Shore Rd @ Orchard Dr**

Derek Scheer of 24 North Shore Rd explained his concern. He has a young family and since moving in has watched people almost get hit by motorists. He was here with his neighbors to see what can be done. He is aware that this is not a new concern, and that the concern has been before this Committee multiple times before, however the issue has not been resolved.

He was proposing that multiple 3-Way Stop signs be installed along North Shore Rd.

John Haze of 33 North Shore Rd added that there have been a number of accidents along this road since it was widened back in the 80's. The traffic coming down North Shore Rd from Route 28 has increased dramatically over the years. There are no sidewalks along the road making it difficult for pedestrians to walk the street.

Derek Scheer has called the Police Department and offered his driveway for an officer to observe the traffic patterns. However, they have not taken him up on the offer.

Another resident of North Shore Rd named Chris mentioned that he has be back into his driveway as it is tricky for him to exit his driveway.

Alan Cote stated that he would have to look at the traffic study that was done a year or so ago to confirm the speeds.

Scott Savard stated that this road has come up several times and they have suggested speed bumps, trimming back brush, etc. to make this road safer with no avail.

Alan Cote explained that the Public Works Department follow the MUTCD Guidelines, which is Federal Highway Administration set of guidelines so that all concerns are resolved in a similar manner. Stop signs are not meant to control the speeds, they are to be located on subordinate street not the main road. Manchester has stop signs at each block and it breathes disrespect for the sign. He would not be able to support installing 3-way stop signs at any of the locations mentioned.

Derek Scheer wondered if the Committee would not endorse install stop signs at the three-different location, would it consider installing one at North Shore Rd @ Orchard Dr.

Alan Cote felt that Orchard Dr was a newer road added to North Shore Rd and would have had to meet the sight distance requirements to be built, but that he would remeasure the sight distance.

Derek Scheer felt something needed to be done to make the road safer.

George Feole stated that the Police Department has installed a portable radar device previously on North Shore Rd.

Scott Savard questioned if removable speed bumps could be installed and later removed for the winter.

Alan Cote stated that speed bumps were a terrible idea, they can cause new hazards on the road. What needs to happen, is to change the motorist's habits on the road. This road is already narrow, which is a calming method.

Randy Chase felt that Mundy Ln had a sight distance issue.

John Huse mentioned that back in the day the speed limit was 20 mph on this road.

Alan Cote stated that the Town would have never posted the road at 20 mph, however back in the day the homes were all summer camps. Since sewer has been installed around the lake it has allowed the summer camps to become year-round homes increasing the traffic.

Derek Scheer suggested making North Shore Rd a one way.

Alan Cote felt that traffic may go faster if they had the entire width of the road to travel. Other residents may not appreciate having to go around the lake to get out onto the Chester Rd.

Jim Roddy felt all roads have a level of danger and this Committee is concerned with safety.

Derek Scheer suggested posting a regulatory sign. He questioned what the next step was for this Committee. He would continue coming back until there is a resolution.

Mike Gagnon mentioned that it was the Police jurisdiction to enforce the speed limit, however they are not able to on North Shore Rd all the time.

Alan Cote felt that the motorists who are speeding travel this road daily. If this Committee endorses installing signs it would get noticed initially but then become part of the scenery. He would install a traffic counter out next week to gather updated information regarding the traffic speeds.

George Feole will bring accident data for the last 2 years.

**Walter Deyo made a motion to table this discussion to the May 17th meeting.**

**Seconded by Randy Chase**

**MOTION PASSED (9 – 0)**

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### **OTHER BUSINESS**

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**Randy Chase made a motion to adjourn at 10:15 am.**

**Seconded by Jim Roddy**

**MOTION PASSED (9 – 0)**

Next Meeting is Thursday – April 19, 2018

Respectfully,

*Sharon Jensen*