

DERRY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Minutes for September 20, 2018



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

A monthly meeting of the Derry Highway Safety Committee was held Thursday, September 20, 2018, 2018 at the Derry Municipal Building Center. Meeting was called to order at 9:04 am.

Approval of Minutes

**Alan Cote made a motion to approve the August 16, 2018 minutes as amended.
Seconded by Jim Roddy**

MOTION PASSED (8 – 0)

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Craig Bailey of Turning Point & Demi Oven (owner) – 46 High St – Site Review

Mr. Bailey went over the drawings showing a single parcel which they are proposing to subdivide into 3 single family lots. They are proposing to lower the grades to increase the sight distance and reduce drainage concerns. There would be a 3 to 1 slope out to High St with a concrete retaining wall for Lot 46 to allow for better parking as well. Currently High St is a one-way. The only exception they would be looking to obtain is to be able to leave the existing driveway entrance, which is at a -2% grade. Town standards require a -3% grade.

Mrs. Ovens stated that this proposal was originally for a 13-family complex, until the Town changed the zoning.

Mr. Bailey went on to explain the site drawings.

Alan Cote was glad to hear that they were lowering the grades and installing a rain garden to allow for better sight distance coming out of the driveway looking to the left.

Ed Garone was concerned that residents may try to exit the driveway and access Elm St.

Jim Roddy questioned how tall the retaining wall was going to be.

Mr. Bailey stated that the retaining wall would be 4 feet tall.

Alan Cote suggested that they install a “One Way” sign across from the driveway. He also noted that on page 4 of the site plans, it states that they meet the Town’s sight distance requirements.

Scott Jackson questioned length of the driveway and the size of turnaround at the end of the proposed hammerhead.

Mr. Bailey stated that the driveway was 246 feet long with a 25-foot length turnaround at the end to allow for an ambulance to turn around.

Scott Jackson stated that the Fire Department would prefer a 30-foot turnaround for fire apparatus.

Alan Cote made a motion to forward the minutes of this meeting to the Planning Board to have them consider the following conditions:

- **Increase the turnaround from a 25-foot to a 30-foot radius**
- **Install a One Way sign across from the driveway near the utility pole**

Seconded by Ed Garone
Motion PASSED (8-0)

Patricia Cooper – Abbott House – 10 West Broadway – On-Street Handicap Parking Space

Patricia Cooper of Weston Associates, Inc, requested on behalf of the Residents of Abbott House Apartments located at 10 West Broadway, Derry, New Hampshire that the board consider installing a handicapped parking space in front of the Abbott House on West Broadway.

She went on to say that this 22 Unit Apartment Community consists solely of elderly and disabled residents who consistently have difficulty finding an empty space in the two (2) handicapped parking spots which are in the parking lot in the rear of the building. Many of our residents have pleaded urgently for a handicapped space in front of the building in order that they, and friends and relatives who transport them to doctor's appointments, grocery stores, etc., have a place to park automobiles when picking up, or dropping them off, in a convenient and safe area.

Alan Cote passed around photos of the existing parking lot at the Abbott House showing handicap ramp access in the rear of the building. He didn't see any handicapped parking spaces marked out in the lot, however the applicant did reference that there were 2 handicapped spots in the rear of the building.

Alan Cote also provided an article stating that the 2010 ADA Standards of Accessible Design doesn't address on-street parallel parking as it would be difficult to meet the ADA requirements and preferred off-street parking for safety reasons.

Currently there are downtown handicapped parking spaces locations (2) on Merchants Row, (3) Manning St, and (2) in the Abbott St Parking Lot.

Ed Garone stated that the Abbott House would have had to meet the ADA requirements when the building was built.

Scott Savard felt that the Abbott House was looking for this parking space to be used for drop off/pickups for residents to get to doctor's appointments, etc.

Alan Cote felt that the rear of the Abbott House was a safer environment to accommodate those types of situations. Currently the on-street parking in front of the Abbott House is posted with 2-hour parking for general use by patrons to shop and dine downtown.

Scott Savard suggested a 15-minute parking area.

Alan Cote stated that the sidewalk in front of the Abbott House doesn't meet the ADA requirements nor does it have a ramp in front of that location. He also added that if the person, friend, or family member were picking up the Abbott House resident and didn't have a handicapped placard, they would be parking illegally.

Alan Cote's felt that the Abbott House would be better off to designate a Drop Off/Pick Up location near the rear entrance for those types of situations.

Scott Jackson of the Fire Department stated that the main entrance of that building would be considered in the rear of the building making that a safer location for a drop off/pick up parking spot.

Alan Cote made a motion to send the Abbott House a letter stating that ADA Standards did not endorse on-street parallel handicapped parking.

Seconded by Walter Deyo

MOTION PASSED to send a letter to applicant (8-0)

Frances Keenan – Crescent @ East Broadway – Speeding

Frances Keenan submitted an email requesting that the Committee do something to slow down the traffic on Crescent St. We have lots of children and animals whose safety is at risk. We are at the corner of Crescent and East Broadway. Cars race up and down Crescent St constantly. This gets worse when Pinkerton is in session.

Alan Cote stated that the Highway Division could put out a traffic counter to gather information to see what the traffic speeds actually are.

Scott Jackson stated that he could vouch that they motorist do travel fast down that road. We see them at the station.

Ed Garone stated that he would try to have his Department assess the situation at the beginning and end of the school session, before we go through the effort of putting out the traffic counter.

The Committee will send a letter notifying applicate of the actions to be taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

Alan Cote made a motion to adjourn at 10:00 am.

Seconded by Jim Roddy

MOTION PASSED (5 – 0)

Next Meeting is Thursday – October 18, 2018

Respectfully,

Sharon Jensen