

DERRY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Minutes for August 18, 2016



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
Denise Christoni		X
Tom Landers		X
John Potucek	X	
Alan Côté, DPW	X	
David Kelley (School Dept Alt)		
George Feole (Police Alt)	X	
Scott Jackson (Fire Alt)	X	
Mike Fowler (DPW Alt)		

A monthly meeting of the Derry Highway Safety Committee was held Thursday, August 18, 2016 at the Derry Municipal Building Center. Meeting was called to order at 9:01 am.

Approval of Minutes

Alan Cote made a motion to accept the minutes of July 21, 2016 as presented.

John Potucek seconded.

Motion passed. (5 – 0 - 1) George Feole abstained.

OLD BUSINESS

Robin Bordonaro – Fog lines on Secondary Roads

Alan Cote provided a list of roads that would meet the guidelines to have center and/or fog lines to be reviewed. He was not able to locate the report that stated the calming effect of striping log and center lines. The roads listed below are collector roads.

Road Name	Length	Road Name	Length	Road Name	Length
Adams Pond Rd	6998	Damren Rd	5150	Drew Rd	3940
English Range Rd	11354	Fordway Ext	11204	Goodhue Rd	10950
Gulf Rd	11535	Kilrea Rd	10513	Lawrence Rd	5385
Old Auburn Rd	10368	Old Chester Rd	10506	Old Manchester Rd	2048
Pingree Hill Rd	5016	Scobie Pond Rd	9051	Walnut Hill Rd	10666
Warner Hill Rd	16980			Windham Depot Rd	5914

The arterial roads in Town are striped with fog and centerlines already. Some residents feel that when you strip a road you lose the rural character of the road.

Scott Jackson asked if these roads were wide enough to have centerlines.

Alan Cote stated that the MUTCD Guideline state that roads as narrow as 16 feet can have centerlines. There are no roads on the list that are less than 20 feet. If the Highway Safety Committee decided to move forward with this request, a Staff Report would be sent to the Town Council for review and they would hold a Public Hearing before making a decision.

Scott Jackson felt that fire trucks would have difficulty traveling down some of these roads if they were striped.

Walter Deyo felt fog lines would make it easier for driving at night.

Alan Cote agreed that the older population does have difficulty driving at night.

Walter Deyo made a motion to recommend that the Highway Safety Committee forward the list of roads for the Town Council to consider painting fog lines.

SECONDED BY John Polucek.

Scott Jackson questioned if the narrower roads could have only fog lines and the wider roads have fog and centerlines on them.

Alan Cote stated that the Town could do that; someone would just need to set the width standards.

MOTION PASSED: (6-0)

NEW BUSINESS

Richard Christian – Stop or Yield sign – Beaver Lake Ave @ Coles Grove Rd

Richard Christian of 22 Coles Grove Rd explained his concern with the traffic pattern currently on Coles Grove Rd. He noticed that after he had called the Office a “Yield” sign was installed at the intersection of Coles Grove Rd @ Beaver Lake Ave however it didn’t resolve the concern coming from Pond Rd trying to continue on Coles Grove Rd at the fork where Beaver Lake Ave began.

Shannon Anthony of 20 Coles Grove Rd explained that there were many young drivers on Coles Grove Rd. Coles Grove Rd begins at Pond Rd and then Beaver Lake Ave forks off to the right further down the road. She felt there should be a stop sign where Beaver Lake Ave meets Coles Grove Rd or a “yield to traffic” sign on Coles Grove Rd so that motorists are aware who has the right of way.

Alan Cote explained that the Town follows MUTCD Guidelines and stop signs are not meant to slow traffic down. He added that Coles Grove Rd was a dead end road with limited traffic, so he felt that Beaver Lake Rd would be the primary road coming down to Pond Rd in this case. He was concerned with having motorists trying to stop while coming down Beaver Lake Ave during inclement weather.

Shannon Anthony felt that both lanes of traffic were thinking they have the right of way currently.

Richard Christian felt that Beaver Lake Ave was a cut through for people.

Alan Cote disagreed and stated that residents would go straight up Pond Rd if they were going to East Derry Rd. He suggested putting a “left turning traffic must yield” sign on Coles Grove Rd coming from Pond Rd.

Scott Savard felt there was also a sight distance issue coming out of Coles Grove Rd. He then asked if the Town could have 2 yield signs there.

Alan Cote stated that there could be a 2-way stop but not a 2-way yield signs. He asked if anyone had been to Manchester and noticed that every intersection had 4-way stop signs. This breeds disrespect for stop signs and you start seeing motorists do rolling stops.

Scott Jackson felt that the primary road would be Coles Grove Rd in this case coming off Pond Rd.

George Feole requested that a traffic count be considered on both roads.

Richard Christian asked if the traffic counter would recognize a bicycle.

Alan Cote stated that it would. He also encouraged the members to drive out to the location and see the intersection themselves.

Shannon Anthony wanted to know what the benefit of having a traffic study done.

George Feole felt it would tell us about the number of vehicles, what time has the heaviest traffic, type of vehicles and speeds of the vehicles using the road.

John Polucek made a motion to table the discussion till the September Meeting.

Seconded by Walter Deyo

MOTION PASSED (6-0)

Michelle Cooke – Rotary – “Yield to vehicles in the Rotary” signs

Members read the email that was provided by Michelle Cooke.

Alan Cote stated that every road coming into the rotary has a yield sign. There are also street markings “yield” signs on the road. NH State Law states that motorists must yield to vehicles within the rotary.

Scott Savard added that there is currently so much signage in the rotary it blends into the scenery.

Alan Cote stated that his crews are out striping the crosswalks, etc. and would make sure that they did the yield signs on the pavement as well.

John Polucek would like to see a police car parked at the rotary between 4 – 6pm.

George Feole stated that there were patrolmen parked at the rotary quite often, but could not guarantee that they could be there every day as they may need to respond to another situation.

No action taken by the Committee.

Highway Department would verify that the Yield signs were in place.

OTHER BUSINESS

John Polucek – 4-way Stop at Kendall Pond Rd @ Fordway

He had been approached by a resident in town stating that motorists were not stopping at the 4-way stop. He would like to request an officer be present during commuter hours.

George Feole stated the resident should contact the Police Department at the time they see the violation so that an officer could respond and assess the situation.

Scott Savard questioned if it wasn't a good time to have the newspapers run an article on how motorists should use the rotary and include the RSA.

Southern NH Planning – Road Safety Audits

A notice was received recently seeking a list of intersections that the Town would like to be considered for a road safety audit. Deadlines for submitting an application is December 1, 2016.

Alan Cote stated that the State of NH had recently installed traffic lights at the intersection of Kilrea @ Rt 28. Their next project in Derry will be at the intersection of English Range Rd @ Rt 28 By-Pass where lights will be installed.

George Feole mentioned that the Planning Board had discussed this notice at their most recent meeting.

No further action was taken by this Committee.

Alan Cote made a Motion to adjourn at 9:45 am.
Seconded by Walter Deyo
MOTION PASSED (6 – 0)

Next Meeting is Thursday – September 15, 2016
Respectfully,
Sharon Jensen