

DERRY HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Minutes for February 18, 2021



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

A monthly meeting of the Derry Highway Safety Committee was held on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at the Derry Municipal Center. The meeting was called to order at 9:06 am.

In attendance were Mr. Marc Siragusa, Mr. Jerry Siragusa, and Mr. Mark Munroe (via Zoom).

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the January 21, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Jim Roddy stated that due to his computer difficulties at the last meeting, he will abstain from voting. Chief Gagnon was not present for the last meeting, he will abstain as well. Jill mentioned that Jacob Pelletier had emailed her that he was present at the January meeting via Zoom.

**Alan Côté made a motion to approve the January 21, 2021 minutes as amended.
Seconded by Walter Deyo.**

MOTION PASSED (6-0). Jim Roddy and Chief Gagnon abstained from voting.

Ronald Goldthwaite asked for a clarification change, and that he would like to interject a change on behalf of Mr. Marc Siragusa & Mr. Jerry Siragusa. Mr. Jerry Siragusa stated on January 21, 2021 that they never said that there was adequate parking on 28 and the Highway Safety Committee meeting minutes have impacted their TRC. Ronald Goldthwaite stated that it was his understanding at the last meeting that parking on Route 28 was a worst-case scenario.

Mr. Jerry Siragusa stated that they never said that they could utilize parking on both sides of Route 28. He further stated that there is no way that they would allow parking along Route 28.

Mr. Marc Siragusa stated that the Highway Safety Committee meeting minutes from January 21, 2021 were brought up by Captain Feole at the TRC meeting, and that impacted the dialogue at that meeting.

Alan Côté suggested noting for the record that the Siragusa's have no intention of parking on Route 28 as part of their site plan.

Mr. Jerry Siragusa stated that he has a problem with that.

Alan Côté stated that it was understood that there would be no parking on Route 28.

Mr. Jerry Siragusa stated that it is our opinion that we never said that, and that they respect Chief Garone and Alan Côté.

Alan Côté stated that it was their opinion that they never stated that parking would be available on Route 28.

Ronald Goldthwaite stated it was his understanding at the last meeting, that there was a snowball chance of happening (parking on Route 28).

Mr. Jerry Siragusa stated that they will prevent parking on Route 28 in the future.

Alan Côté stated that the above would be reflected in the January 21, 2021 meeting minutes and a copy sent to the Siragusa's and the Planning Board. Mr. Marc Siragusa and Mr. Jerry Siragusa left the meeting at 9:12am.

Jim Roddy stated that he agreed with updating the January 21, 2021 meeting minutes. He was having computer difficulty at the last meeting and he abstained from the vote.

Chief Garone asked Jill to read back the notes.

Alan Côté moved to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Walter Deyo.

MOTION PASSED (6-0). Jim Roddy and Chief Gagnon abstained from voting.

Chief Garone stated that these are our minutes and that Alan Côté's motion is appropriate. He asked Jill if she had corrected the January meeting minutes. Jill replied that it was her understanding that any changes and updates must be suggested by and approved by the Highway Safety Committee members as her role is the recording clerk.

Chief Garone stated that there was a misunderstanding of being able to park along Route 28. He would like this to be reflected in today's meeting minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Mr. Mark Munroe – 15 Elm Street – concern regarding speeding vehicles - attended the meeting via Zoom.

Mr. Mark Munroe stated that he has lived at this address for 3 years. His concern is the vehicles speeding and are traveling too fast. It is worse in the morning and at night. There are quite a few children in the neighborhood. The street goes from a 2 way down to a 1 way. He has witnessed vehicles speeding head on toward each other. He reported this issue three years ago. There was a sign to slow down put up one day and then taken down. There was a counter that was out for 3 days then disappeared. He went to the Derry Police Department to make a complaint and reached out to his Town Councilor.

Mr. Mark Munroe is afraid of an injury occurring. He stated that tractor trailers drive down the street. It is hard to inch out of his driveway due to snowbanks currently. He is a retired firefighter/EMT, he is not complaining. He is concerned.

Jim Roddy stated that he is a resident volunteer on the Highway Safety Committee and that they are an advisory committee to residents and then the Town Council makes the decisions. He joined the committee a few years ago due to his own street having issues with vehicles speeding.

Jim Roddy asked Alan Côté if there was a counter placed recently. Alan Côté stated that he had looked and the last time he could find was back in 2010. He thought it was more recent but could not find any data. He stated that in 2010, the 85th % was at 42 mph, with a posted speed limit of 30 mph.

Jim Roddy explained that the 85th % is used as vehicles traveling at the bottom 7.5% (slow) and the top 7.5% (fast) would skew the average speed.

Alan Côté stated that once the weather is agreeable, (it is not possible now with plowing), he would place speed tubes on Elm Street in April. The data collection is very good as it gives specific times for rate of speed, which is helpful to the Derry Police Department with limited resources and can help with speed limit enforcement. Alan Côté stated that the data collection in April will automatically be sent to the Derry Police Department.

Jim Roddy stated that Elm Street is a popular cut through for people going to work and it is not a primary residential street.

Jim Roddy asked Alan Côté how many streets are in Derry. Alan Côté stated there is 165 miles of road and 600 named streets in Derry. Jim Roddy stated that the most common request for the Highway Safety Committee is to address speeding concerns. Jim Roddy asked Mr. Mark Munroe to let his neighbors know that he came before the Highway Safety Committee today and to mention that he has seen vehicles driving down the wrong way on the street. Jim Roddy stated that this is a not a common street, as it changes from a 1 way to a 2 way on the same street.

Walter Deyo asked about a sign limiting truck capacity. Alan Côté replied no, that the only way is if there is a weight limit for the road. It is unlawful to implement no through trucking.

Alan Côté stated in April, a traffic counter would be placed, which gives the speed, size of vehicles, and the time of day. Chief Garone asked Alan Côté if the direction of a vehicle is given as well.

Mr. Mark Munroe stated that this is a frustrating point of reckless drivers. He wants to get ahead of the curve, he is not complaining. Jim Roddy replied that the Highway Safety Committee never looks at items brought forth as complaints. Jim Roddy further stated that the Highway Safety Committee has the best interests of Derry residents at heart.

Alan Côté stated that the traffic counter will be reflected in the meeting minutes and that no motion is needed to place the traffic counter.

Jim Roddy asked if there were any other business items. None were brought forth.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

**Alan Côté made a motion to adjourn at 9:35 am.
Seconded by Walter Deyo.**

Motion passed (8-0).

The next meeting is Thursday, March 18, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jill Jamro, Recording Clerk