

Traffic Safety Minutes

Feb 6, 2007

Present: Steve Minor, Gary Paulson, Kathy Bourassa, Neil Kellner, Bob Helbock, Mike Malan, Jim McClellan, Patricia Pinkham, Steve Bauer, Barbara Porter, Dody Solaas, Chris McClellan

The meeting came to order at 7:00 pm

The agenda was approved.

Committee Reports:

Patricia stated that the county would like "pilot project" renamed as the term "pilot project" to the county means a "project" within their 6 year road improvement plan. Our proposal falls outside of PW plans. They need an in-depth report of the committee, its history, reason for forming and plans, sent to the newspaper, with drawings of the proposed traffic circle and speed tables. Patricia suggested an in-depth article in preparation for a community wide meeting to take place at a later date. The possible locations where the county could do installations according to their codes may include a traffic circle at the Point No Point/Buck Lake Rd. intersection, and at the grocery store curve, as well as an extension of the no passing zone within that area. Also included is Hood Canal Dr. south of the hairpin turn on the straight-a-way, for a total of 5 speed tables, including one with a crosswalk at the beach access on Cliffside. It is also proposed that Bridgeview Dr. have 4 speed humps, to prevent traffic from going that way to avoid reducing speed at the calming devices.

Steve Bauer suggested asking Jeff Shea to come to one of our meetings, and said that Chris Endreson will need to approve funding soon. It will also be imperative to get public approval at a community wide public meeting.

Discussion:

Gary Paulson feels that the public will not support that many devices, and Neil Kellner expressed concern that proposing that many will not be approved by the general public, insuring failure to acquire any.

Kathy Bourassa reported to the new Futures Advisory Council in December. They see this group as important toward reaching their goals as well. Steve suggested including them in the public meeting as well as making a report to their group after that meeting.

Dody Solaas spoke with Sgt. Merrill who reported writing 23 tickets up by the cemetery and 7 tickets on Hood Canal Dr. and Bridgeview this week. They will come out to patrol if we call periodically to remind them.

Barbara Porter suggested writing thank you notes to them. Dody will write the notes. Neil

suggested sending a note to the newspapers, and Steve suggested letters to the editor and the Sherriff. Dody also spoke to Carolyn Pence, Public Traffic Liaison, about the radar trailer. Permits to operate it have just been received and we may be the first community to use it. It is lightweight and easily portable. This system is called. COSMO (community speed monitoring).

Patricia reported that Carol Peterson is resigning from the committee as she will be moving soon. Barbara Porter volunteered to help Dody with publicity. Patricia also mentioned that the article on speed tables in the January Hansville Log brought only one unrelated response.

Neil reported that the Shorewood project of acquiring 4 way stop signs at Aspin and Ponderosa has brought much more success than anticipated. They will revisit the site next month to see if it is still successful, and want one more sign at the bottom of the hill.

There was a discussion regarding more noise with traffic starting and stopping with traffic calming devices. While many of the committee said they were willing to live with that in order to slow traffic, the group was cautioned that there is a group of people who do not want any speed suppression, so there will be a danger of them blocking the whole project if too many devices are presented. There will be a public meeting in May, the date to be determined soon.

Patricia said that before that date, the committee needs to decide on more or fewer devices and how to deal with the prospect of potential increased noise. Gary Paulson suggested meeting with Jeff Shea before the public meeting, but Kathy suggested the committee should make these decisions as we now know what we can ask for.

Dody suggested talking to people in the neighborhoods which could be acquiring the calming devices. There is a need to be prepared with facts. Gary said the issue is not for everyone; only those who live near the planned devices, but Patricia said all will be affected by the reduced speeds. Kathy suggested going to the people near the planned sites with a petition. Further discussion on the number of tables included the possibility of only 4 tables and it was stated that they will work with Chris Endreson for dollar commitment if community support is there. Gary, Mike and Dody will speak to neighbors to see if the proposed sites are acceptable to them.

There will be a meeting on Feb. 23 with the Patricia and Kathy, the county and Chris Endreson at 10 am. Steve suggested having Chris Endreson give us a dollar amount that we can anticipate, getting costs from Jeff for each type of calming device, inviting him to our next meeting to brainstorm and show drawings of proposed sites, as well as getting construction plans of start and ending times. Gary suggested having both a plan A and plan B in case one is rejected. Steve also suggested having the Hansville Futures Advisory give recommendations to the county, instead of our group doing it. He would like to encourage all proponents to attend the public meeting. Patricia will call Jeff for cost information.

Cliffside and Twin Spits' representatives will get neighbors' consensus, and Patricia will contact Judy Foritano to be put on the Advisory Council agenda.

Other concerns that have been reported to the committee:

There have been several signs damaged with paintballs, which will require replacement.

The street light at Eglon/Little Boston intersection is set back too far.

Speed limit on Hansville Highway should be reduced.

Future projects this year include widening Cliffside, and removing the hill at the Hood Canal and Ponderosa intersection.

Citizens can call Doug Baer to notify him of their concerns. Dody will contact him for further information that she can include in her news article.

The committee will meet again on March 6th at the Driftwood Key Clubhouse, 7:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.