

Traffic Safety Committee
Minutes
June 27, 2006

Present: Neal Kellner, Bob Helbock, Gery Paulson, Steve Carpine, Yvonne Meyer, Kathy Bourassa, Mike Malan, Carol Peterson, Patricia Pinkham, Chris McClellan, Dody Solaas, Dick Lowry.

Old Business:

Neal asked for volunteer(s) to take over his position as chairperson, explaining that he will be unable to continue in this position due to time constraints. He said he would be able to give help and advice to anyone who takes over the position.

A letter was received from Chris Endresen in reply to our letter of request for traffic tables on Twin Spits Rd in Hansville. She suggested adding another in the Cliffside area. She felt that if we only address the Hansville area, traffic would respond by moving to the Cliffside area to avoid having to slow down. Bob Helbock and Kathy Bourassa agreed to begin a committee of residents of the Cliffside area and to ask Barbara Porter and Steve Minor to help draft a letter to Chris Endresen. This letter will be based on our first letter to the Commissioners, adding the suggestion of traffic tables in Cliffside on Hood Canal (2) plus one on Bridgeview, with the understanding that we will be willing to comply with county requirements. This letter is to be reviewed, commented on, and approved by the full committee, (by e-mail), before submission. The intent is to have this letter to Chris Endresen by/before 7-20-06. Since Neal initiated this process with Chris (in the committee's name), Neal will co-sign the Cliffside letter along with the new co-chairs to show continuity in our communications with the county.

Top priorities include: involving the county with time and budget costs, and getting rapid action upon our requests from the county... time is of the essence, action by fall is what we seek. Other lower ranked safety issues requiring less cost and time to the county budget will be pursued through community based efforts involving Homeowners Associations and other small community groups which the Traffic Committee will review, and modify if necessary, then sign onto the request(s) being made by other community groups, (bottom-up, top guided approach).

Carol Peterson asked what information should be put in publications and it was agreed that general information such as meeting times and encouragement of public participation should be publicized as well as results of sheriff patrol/ticketing efforts, and other general information regarding the committee's activities.

Neal asked Mike Malan to be part of a mini-committee, to follow up with the county on the downtown project, and Neal requested that the Cliffside committee will need to do the same

with their proposal. We need to stay in contact with the county on a regular basis.

Mike suggested that Neal write a thank you to Chris Endresen for her support.

Dody Solaas volunteered to attend a PACE meeting on 6-30-06 for and report back to the committee.

New Business:

Steve Carpine reported a problem with traffic at the end of Twin Spits Rd which is likely related to signage on RT 104. Drivers looking for Port Gamble/Hood Canal mistake the Port Gamble Skallam Tribal Center for the road they need and end up at the dead end. Neal suggested the neighbors get together to draft a letter for new signage to the county and state. When they have the completed letter, they should present it to the committee so we can add our support.

Neal spoke about requesting stop signs on Ponderosa. There was a previous history with the county denying that request and Dick Lowry, President of the Shorewoods Homeowners Association has agreed to draft a letter requesting the county to conduct another survey. The committee will review the letter and add our name in support. Bob Helbock explained county guidelines for stop signs.

Neal discussed information sent by Steve Johnson, and explained that 72% of traffic coming through Hansville on Twin Spits Rd. is going to or coming from Skunk Bay and Foulweather Bluff, while 28% turns onto Hood Canal Drive. He concluded, saying that this indicates that there is a great educational opportunity in the neighborhoods beyond Hood Canal on Twin Spits which the committee should act upon. In a discussion that followed, it was suggested that some of this may be from drivers who have reached a dead end instead of Port Gamble or Hood Canal Bridge.

Neal again called for volunteers for chairperson. Patricia Pinkham and Kathy Bourassa will step into this position and Chris McClellan has agreed to be secretary... so the committee's work continues!

Meeting Date:

Next meeting is August 8 at Shorewoods at 7:00 pm.