

TRAFFIC SAFETY WORK GROUP

Minutes of the meeting of February 16, 2023. The meeting took place via remote participation using Zoom. Members present were Arthur Gasbarro, Ray Sylvia and Mickey Rowland. Police Chief William Pittman and Fire Chief Michael Cranson were absent. The Transportation seat is currently vacant following the resignation of Transportation Program Manager Patrick Reed in January 2023.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gasbarro called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

III. OFFICIAL BUSINESS

1. Review of traffic calming design plans for reconstruction of Lovers Lane, Okorwaw Avenue and Monohansett Road. Operations Administrator Erika Mooney introduced John Osorio, Brian Myers and Emily Doty from Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. to review traffic calming design concepts as part of the Lovers Lane, Okorwaw Avenue and Monohansett Road Roadway and Sidepath Enhancement Project. Mr. Osorio review the traffic calming design concept plans for the following locations:

Lovers Lane at Okorwaw Avenue. Chair Gasbarro asked if the median at Lovers at Okorwaw was really needed as it is a "T" intersection, and what the driver for it is. Mr. Osorio said the driver is speed. Chair Gasbarro noted concern that this median would cause issues with vehicles including damage to tires. M. Mooney noted that the curbing being looked at matches the softer curb that the Sewer Department is using for its 3rd Sewer Force Main project vs. the hard-sharp granite curbing used some places on the island.

Lovers Lane at Rugged Road. Mr. Osorio noted the proposed raised intersection table at this location. Chair Gasbarro questioned the alignment of the intersection as proposed. Mr. Osorio explained the reasoning for the current design, including the shifting of the sidepath to within the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) property to improve the existing trail. Chair Gasbarro stated he is fully supportive of the raised intersection but feels it needs to be reassessed regarding the alignment. There was further discussion on the intersection alignment. Mr. Rowland said he feels an advantage of the design is that it forces bikers to slow down and not speed through the intersection.

Lovers Lane by Nancy Ann Lane. Mr. Osorio reviewed the two design options for this location, noting he is on favor of Option 2 which is further away from the intersection. Abutter Maureen Coleman expressed concern that a median right at the intersection of Rugged and Mary Ann would create noise as landscaping trailers and other trucks would cause noise by having to mount the median to make a left hand turn out of Nancy Ann onto Lovers. The consensus was to endorse Option 2 with sloped curbing.

Monohansett Road at Webster Road. Mr. Osorio noted the proposed raised intersection table at this location. Chair Gasbarro said the site lines at this intersection definitely need addressing but he questioned the need for a raised intersection table in this location. Mr. Rowland suggested possible using a raised intersection table at Lovers at Okorwaw vs. medians. Chair Gasbarro agreed, saying he feels that would be a better option.

Monohansett Road. The consensus was no median at this location by the sharp corner between Okorwaw and Webster but the members spoke in favor of additional signage.

2. Request to address pedestrian safety concerns at Miacomet Avenue/Surfside Road (tabled from September 15, 2022; October 20, 2022). Chair Gasbarro noted that with the loss of Mr. Reed, this can't really be implemented at this time. Meg Browsers asked what happened with the plans that Mr. Reed had sketched out. Chair Gasbarro said they needed further design and input from the Nantucket Planning & Economic Development Committee. Mr. Rowland asked why the DPW can't just implement the design to narrow the entrance to Miacomet Avenue. Ms. Mooney noted the resignation of the DPW Director and the attempt to fill a Town Engineer position as a hinderance to getting this done at this time. Ms. Bowers asked that someone speak with Reis Trucking about its parking area on Miacomet Avenue outside the sawhorses that bisect the parking area. She also suggested this area be part of a larger school traffic redesign.

3. Review Nantucket Boys & Girls Club request for signage, lights, etc. to improve crossing from School across Sparks Avenue. Nantucket Boys and Girls Cub executive director Jamie Foster noted that the Club is now allowing some students to park in the Club lot and he is worried that someone will get hurt crossing Sparks Avenue. He asked if the Town could see how other towns deal with high-traffic areas. Mr. Rowland asked if a raised intersection table would work in this location. Chair Gasbarro suggested bringing this to the attention of the Town's consulting engineer. Mr. Sylvia said he checked the signage at the location and it is all there but he noted witnessing many students crossing Sparks Avenue at various locations, none of which was across the crosswalk. Some discussion followed on ideas to funnel the kids to the crosswalk.

4. Review request to change the intersection of Surfside Road, Miacomet Road and Surfside Drive to a 4-way stop. This matter was tabled.

5. Review request for a yellow no parking line across from 8 New Mill Street. There was no representation for this matter. Mr. Sylvia said he viewed the site and measured it and he feels the existing yellow line could be extended approximately 16' to accommodate the request and still allow for a parking space. Mr. Rowland said he would like to know the reasoning for the request. This matter was tabled for representation.

6. Review request to move yellow line across from 10 York Street (previously approved April 15, 2021) to accommodate driveway relocation. Chair Gasbarro said this matter will need to be tabled as he will have to recuse himself and that won't leave a quorum.

5. Review request for a yellow no parking line across from 8 New Mill Street. Todd Sherman joined the meeting and asked to speak on the request. He noted the reasoning for the request is that there is a utility pole right next to the driveway and when a car is parked across from the driveway it is impossible to pull out of the driveway. Mr. Rowland moved to recommend the extension of the yellow line approximately 16' to allow access in and out of the driveway at 8 New Mill Street; seconded by Mr. Sylvia; by roll call: Mr. Rowland – Yes, Mr. Sylvia – Yes, Chair Gasbarro – Yes; so voted.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2022 AT 10:30 AM.

The minutes were adopted by unanimous consent.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Rowland moved adjournment at 11:53 PM; seconded by Mr. Sylvia; by roll call: Mr. Rowland – Yes, Mr. Sylvia – Yes, Chair Gasbarro – Yes; so voted.

Approved the 25th day of May 2023.

**TRAFFIC SAFETY WORK GROUP
FEBRUARY 16, 2023 – 10:30 AM
REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM**

List of documents used at the meeting:

- III. 1. Traffic calming concepts plans for Lovers Ln, Okorwaw Ave and Monohansett Rd
- III. 2. Email thread between Patrick Reed, Meg Browsers and Arthur Gasbarro; Miacomet Avenue & Surfside Road Tactical Safety Improvements presentation
- III. 3. Email from Boys & Girls Club re: Sparks Ave crossing
- III. 4. Note from Michael Humphrey re: Surfside Rd/Miacomet Rd/Surfside Dr 4-way stop
- III. 5. Letter from Stephanie Basile re: request for yellow line across from 8 New Mill St; photos
- III. 6. Email from Dani Petkova re: 10 York St yellow line; updated driveway location plans; aerial photos; Traffic Safety minutes of 4/15/2021; 2021 driveway location plan; Select Board minutes of 8/4/2021; Traffic Safety memo to Select Board dated 7/28/2021; Memo to DPW dated 8/5/2021
- V. Draft minutes of 10/20/2022