

**MINUTES
TRAFFIC AND SAFETY BOARD**

7:00 p.m.

Thursday

February 21, 2008

Chairperson Leppanen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Reynolds, Leppanen, Chiara, McGowan, Mehas, Allyn (ex-officio),
Nebus (ex-officio)

ABSENT: DeCorte (vacation)

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Mr. McGowan requested a second revision in the October 18, 2007 minutes, under "Old Business, B. Walkability Update," second paragraph of page one. The first sentence should read: Chairperson McGowan concurred with Mr. Chiara, expressing his concern that eastbound Grand River should have a left turn lane, and a single lane functioning as a through and right turn lane."

Mr. Chiara requested the spelling of Allyn's name be corrected in the January 17, 2008 minutes.

With those two revisions, Mr. Chiara made a motion, supported by Mr. Reynolds to accept the October 18, 2007 and January 17, 2008 minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Nine Mile and Floral

Director Nebus reported he spoke with Mr. Keller from the Oakland County Road Commission. Mr. Keller stated the county wants the double yellow center lane striping on eastbound Nine Mile at Floral changed to a skip yellow. A three year accident history study determined there were no accidents as a result of left turns. The director has already received permission and confirmation from City Manager Pastue and Director Gushman that the city will make the corrections, weather permitting, in the spring. The resident (Christine Kish, 23136 Floral) who expressed the original concern was updated by Director Nebus.

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B. Liberty Street and State Street

Director Nebus reported that City Council approved the introduction of Ordinance C-729-2008 on February 18, 2008. Mr. Allyn suggested an amendment to the ordinance. Due to a stop sign at eastbound State Street at Liberty Street, the "No Parking This Side of Sign" should be 30' from the stop sign instead of 20' from the crosswalk. The board agreed. Director Nebus will submit a staff report to City Manager Pastue containing the suggestion.

C. Shiawassee Parking

Director Nebus reported that on February 20, 2008, he parked his vehicle in several locations along Shiawassee and Hillcrest where parking is currently legal. The director reported vehicles were able to pass his vehicle without reducing speed and crossing the double yellow line. The director had previously reported that cars had crossed the double yellow when passing by his parked vehicle, but he had the four way hazard lights activated that caused drivers to reduce speed and cross the double yellow line.

The director shared information he received from City Attorney Tom Schultz. Mr. Schultz had no objection to allowing parking if vehicles could safely pass without crossing the double yellow line. City Prosecutor Steve Meads did not want "obstructing traffic" tickets issued to drivers parked within 12" of the curb unless "No Parking" signs were posted.

Director Nebus recommended that since there was no Shiawassee parking complaint, no justifying accident history, and no recent construction changes, it did not seem logical to prohibit parking that has existed for the past forty years, as confirmed by Mr. Chiara.

The director also reported that the time restricted no parking signs by Farmington High School were removed. The director suggested to the board not to make any parking changes on Shiawassee, except where the road improvements occurred near the high school and the center left turn lanes were added.

Mr. Reynolds made a motion supported by Mr. McGowan to permanently remove the time restricted parking signs on Shiawassee from Mooney to Prospect and replace the signs with permanent "No Parking" signs. The motion carried.

D. Grand River 25 MPH Limit

Director Nebus requested the addition of "D" to the agenda. The Director Reported he and the city clerk were unable to find a Traffic Control Order for controlling speed on Grand River. The director showed the board a copy of a State of Michigan, Traffic Control Order (SP-63-22-74), effective

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May 3, 1974. The state Traffic Control Order is in conflict with the City Traffic Control Manual (Chapter 3, 3.1). Mr. Allyn stated the state Traffic Control Order should be the controlling document. He will continue to work with officials from MDOT to review Grand River and place the speed limit sign at the proper location.

According to the state Traffic Control Order, the speed limit for westbound Grand River changes from 35 mph to 25 mph at School Street, not Grove. Mr. Chiara reminded the board and Mr. Allyn that the Traffic and Safety Board had previously asked for the addition of a 25 mph speed limit sign on eastbound Grand River, just east of Farmington Road. This is to ensure driver's turning east onto Grand River from northbound Farmington Road pass a speed limit sign.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

None.

NEXT MEETING DATE

March 20, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Chiara, seconded by Mr. Reynolds to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting concluded at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Nebus
Public Safety Director