



## **BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION**

**Thursday, June 24, 2021**

**6:00 P.M.**

### **MINUTES**

The Traffic Commission held its monthly meeting at the Arnone School Cafetorium/Little Theater, 135 Belmont Street, Brockton, MA 02301, at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 24, 2021.

Present were Traffic Commissioners: Traffic Commissioner Mark Porcaro, Deputy Fire Chief Joseph Solomon, Interim DPW Commissioner Pat Hill, Stephan Hooke, Councilor-At-Large Rita Mendes and Ken Galligan. Also present was Erik Akesson, Executive Director, Brockton Parking Authority.

There being a proper quorum, the meeting was called to order by Commissioner Porcaro at 6:00 p.m. Upon motion made by Deputy Fire Chief Joseph Solomon, seconded by Steve Hooke, to waive the reading of the May 27, 2021 Minutes. Motion carried by a roll call 6-0 in the affirmative.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **1. CYPRESS DRIVE DEVELOPMENT**

*Email received from Joanne Zine who is reaching out to the Traffic Commission at the advice of Chief Ken Galligan. Mrs. Zine lives on what is currently the existing cul-de-sac on Cypress Drive. As you are probably aware, the city has approved an extension of Cypress to include approximately 800-1000 feet of roadway and 18 houses. This extension will dramatically affect the daily traffic on Cypress and turn what is an existing cul-de-sac into what can be considered a busy street. In an effort to mitigate the effect of this extension and to control the speed of traffic, she would like to propose that a cul-de-sac island, much like the ones currently existing on Briarcliff Road and Front Nine Drive be*

*installed in the current cul-de-sac of Cypress Drive. This would affectively create a one way on either side of the island in both directions, significantly slowing traffic and would be a benefit to the existing residents of the street as well as the future residents of the extension.*

*Mrs. Zine and her husband own and operate DeZine Land Construction, Inc. and would gladly maintain this island. She has contacted her neighbors across the street and they are interested in participating in this process.*

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **A RESIDENT INDICATED THAT THIS STREET WAS ACCEPTED AS A "PUBLIC WAY" LAST YEAR. RECOMMEND THAT THAT TRAFFIC COMMISSION NOT OPPOSE THE CUL-DE-SAC IDEA, BUT THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO CONTACT OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS (SUCH AS DPW AND ENGINEERING) TO GET THEIR INPUT ON THIS. RECOMMEND THAT THIS ITEM BE CONTINUED FOR A FUTURE STATUS REVIEW.**

Discussion: Ken Galligan stated that John Holmgren presented the plans and design layout at the Zoning meeting. Interim DPW Commissioner Hill stated that it was premature for DPW to comment prior to the road being installed but he would look at the plans with the Howard Newton, the City's engineer. He further stated that he would talk to the developer (Carney).

**VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMEDATION TO CONTINUE TO 7/22/21 MEETING.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Steve Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

## **2. 7 KENDWOOD STREET**

*Request of Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of a resident for a 'no parking here to corner' sign in front of 7 Kenwood Street or such other relief as the Commission may deem appropriate. A 95-year-old lady lives here, the widow of WW2 and Pearl Harbor survivor George Hursey. Cars park close to corner near house front door blocking access by any emergency vehicles that may be called to help her. In addition, there is a fire hydrant nearby that keeps getting obstructed by Parked vehicles.*

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **INSTALL A "NO PARKING CORNER TO HERE" SIGN IN FRONT OF THIS ADDRESS.**

**VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.**

Upon motion duly made by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, seconded by Steve Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**3. HOVENDON AVENUE**

*Email request from Lorraine Young who resides at 60 Hovendon Avenue was forwarded by Councilor Jack Lally. Ms. Young lives nearest to McKinley Park, and has lived there for 24yrs; a Brockton resident all her life. Recently, her street has turned into a raceway for Mac trucks, which never used this street previously. They go so fast my house shakes, day and night. I would like to request speed limit restrictions (25mph?), more speed limit signs, Go Slow signs, and anything else you think might help. Hovenden Ave is completely residential, and this type of noise and hazard will no doubt impact our property value and more importantly is a safety issue for Brockton, and a speed limit violation.*

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **THIS STREET IS SUPPOSED TO BE REPAVED IN AUGUST. FOR NOW, WE WILL FOCUS ON ENFORCEMENT.**

**VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.**

Upon motion duly made by Steve Hooke, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Solomon, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**4. SIGN REQUEST - 353 SPRING STREET**

*Request received from Maria Pina, for a handicapped parking sign in front of her house because she is a very high risk for falls. (Note from Dr. Geoffrey Gilson dated 3/14/21 provided).*

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **INSTALL TWO (2) HANDICAP PARKING SIGNS IN FRONT OF THIS ADDRESS. RESIDENT/REQUESTOR WILL PROVIDE COPY OF HER HANDICAP PLACARD. THIS REQUEST AND THE CONTINUED NEED FOR THE SIGNS WILL BE REVIEWED ANNUALLY.**

**VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMEDATION.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Steve Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

#### **5. 132 BELAIR STREET**

*Request received from Joan Andrade who is requesting a barrier in front of her fence. Her fence has been hit and the pole damaged along with the reflectors on the fence when someone hit it. Ms. Andrade is requesting a barrier in the middle of her fence to prevent someone coming into her living room.*

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **REPLACE THE CURRENT YELLOW TRIANGLE SIGN WITH ONE DOUBLE-ARROW SIGN (24" X 48").**

**VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMEDATION.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

#### **6. 77 WENTWORTH AVENUE**

*Request received from Jazmine Glasgow who is requesting a "Curve Ahead" sign (nearest to pole #991) to keep people from hitting the guardrail in front of her house, driving into her yard and driveway. People have gotten hit.*

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **INSTALL A "CURVE AHEAD" SIGN IN FRONT OF 96 WENTWORTH AVENUE. REPLACE THE CURRENT SIGN IN FRONT OF 341 MENLO STREET WITH A REFLECTIVE "CURVE AHEAD" SIGN AND ADD REFLECTIVE STRIPING TO THIS SIGN POST.**

**VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMEDATION.**

Upon motion duly made by Deputy Fire Chief Solomon, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**7. CYPRESS DRIVE AT ROCKLAND DRIVE**

*Request received from board member Ken Galligan on behalf of the residents of Cypress Drive who are requesting a "Dead End" sign on Cypress Drive at Rockland Drive. This request is made to make drivers aware prior to turning onto Cypress Drive that it is a dead end.*

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **MOVE THE CURRENT "DEAD END" SIGN AT CYPRESS DRIVE AND ROCKLAND DRIVE TO CYPRESS DRIVE AND ROCKLAND STREET. INSTALL A LARGER "DEAD END" SIGN AT THE FORMER SIGN'S LOCATION (CYPRESS AND ROCKLAND DRIVES).**

**VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Steve Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**8. SIGN REQUEST - FRENCH AVENUE AND NILSSON STREET**

*Request received from Lynda Barton who resides at 101 Nilsson Street and is Requesting stop signs on French Avenue and Nilsson Street making the intersection a 4-way stop.*

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **REQUEST AN ACCIDENT HISTORY.**
- **CUT THE VEGETATION BACK AND STRAIGHTEN THE STOP SIGN AT FRENCH AVENUE AT NILSSON STREET (SOUTHBOUND LANE).**
- **ADD RED REFLECTIVE STRIPING TO THE STOP SIGN AT FRENCH AVENUE AT NILSSON STREET (NORTHBOUND LANE).**

**VOTED: TO APPROVE #2 and #3 ABOVE AND CONTINUE TO THE 7/22/21 MEETING TO REVIEW THE ACCIDENT HISTORY.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Steve Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

#### **9. SIGN REQUEST - 295 GROVE STREET**

*Request received from Michael Deiuliis who is requesting "No Parking" sign at 295 Grove Street (odd side) because traffic is obstructed and emergency vehicles have a hard time getting by.*

Discussion: Ken Galligan stated that

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **MODIFY THE CURRENT NO PARKING REGULATION ON THE "EASTSIDE" OF GROVE STREET TO INSTEAD BE THE "WESTSIDE" OF GROVE STREET (DELETE "EASTSIDE" AND ADD/INSERT "WESTSIDE"). THE CURRENT REGULATION STARTS AT THE SUMMER STREET INTERSECTION AND EXTENDS 1000 FEET SOUTHWESTERLY ON GROVE STREET. THE WESTSIDE OF GROVE STREET HAS SEVERAL FEATURES THAT MAKE IT THE BETTER OPTION FOR THE NO PARKING REGULATION: UTILITY POLES FOR EASE IN MOUNTING SIGNS, FIRE HYDRANTS, AND THE REQUESTOR LIVES ON THIS SIDE OF THE STREET. THE EASTSIDE OF THE STREET HAS SEVERAL FEATURES THAT MAKE IT THE LESSER OPTION FOR SIGNS: MOUNTING SIGNS WOULD REQUIRE POLES/POSTS, WHICH WOULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR SIDEWALK PLOWING FOR THE SCHOOL WALKING ROUTE, AND GAS MAINS WERE OBSERVED ON THIS SIDE OF GROVE STREET.**

**VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

#### **10. MULBERRY STREET**

*Request received from Councilor Jack Lally on behalf of Cathy Pike who resides on Mulberry Street and is concerned about speeding trucks (mostly from Spiegel) and related noise.*

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **RESIDENT LIVES ACROSS THE STREET FROM BUSINESSES THAT USE LARGE UTILITY AND RECYCLING TRUCKS. UNKNOWN IF SPEEDING IS AN ISSUE GIVEN THE CONDITION OF THE ROAD AND THE FACT THAT THESE TRUCKS MAY BE PULLING IN AND AT OUT THESE FACILITIES, PRESUMABLY AT LOWER SPEEDS. AS FOR THE NOISE, THIS IS NOT A TRAFFIC COMMISSION ISSUE.**

**VOTED: TO TAKE NO ACTION. NOT A TRAFFIC COMMISSION ISSUE.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Solomon, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**11.VULCAN BAR - 705 N. MONTELLO STREET**

*Request received from Councilor Jack Lally on behalf of Gus Rosa, owner of the Vulcan Bar who is requesting bollards or other safety measures in front of his bar as cars have hit his building on numerous occasions.*

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **RECOMMENDED TO THE BAR'S OWNER THAT HE CLOSE OFF THE CURRENT FRONT ENTRANCE AT THE CORNER OF N. MONTELLO AND AMES STREETS AND THEN BOLLARDS CLOSER TO THE BUILDING MIGHT BE AN OPTION (INSTALLED BY THE OWNER AND NOT ON CITY PROPERTY/SIDEWALK). RECOMMENDED THAT THE OWNER INSTEAD USE THE SIDE OR REAR ENTRANCE TO HIS BAR FOR USE BY PATRONS. SUGGESTED THAT THE OWNER CONTACT THE CITY PLANNER, ROB MAY, AND ASK ABOUT OPTIONS. FOCUS SOME TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT IN THE AREA.**

Discussion: Ken Galligan stated that the subcommittee members spoke with the owner and they were very specific in informing him that Ames Street will be entirely rebuilt.

**VOTED: TO REFER TO TRAFFIC FOR ENFORCEMENT.**

Upon motion duly made by Steve Hooke, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**12. 7 NINTH AVENUE**

*Request by Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of a resident to erect*

*an " Autistic Child" sign at 7 Ninth Avenue.*

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **UPON PRESENTATION OF SUPPORTING MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION, INSTALL ONE (1) "AUTISTIC CHILD" SIGN AT THE ADDRESS.**

**VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMEDATION.**

Upon motion duly made by Deputy Fire Chief Solomon, seconded by Steve Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**13. PROSPECT STREET - BETWEEN NORTH ASH STREET & PLEASANT STREET**

*Request of Brenda Rodrigues, 375 Prospect Street, for the Traffic Commission to evaluate whether the section of Prospect Street located between N Ash Street and Pleasant Street should be marked to limit use by tractor trailer trucks. The resident observes an increasing number of these large, heavy trucks using the street at all hours, and is concerned about impacts on housing located close to street and on the bridge at street end.*

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

- **CONSULT WITH THE CITY ENGINEER FOR AN OPINION ON THE WEIGHT LIMIT OF THE BRIDGE ON PROSPECT STREET BETWEEN FIELDS AVE. AND PLEASANT STREET. DEPENDING ON THE ENGINEER'S OPINION, A WEIGHT RESTRICTION ON THAT ROAD MAY BE WARRANTED. RECOMMEND CONTINUING THIS ITEM FOR STATUS REVIEW PENDING THE ENGINEER'S OPINION.**

**VOTED: TO CONTINUE TO THE 7/22/21 MEETING TO OBTAIN STATUS REVIEW FROM INTERIM DPW COMMISSIONER PAT HILL.**



Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Steve Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 14. CHESTNUT WOODS - TRAFFIC SIGNAGE

*Request received from Councilor Dennis Eaniri who forwarded an email from Pat Jacobsen, Trustee of Chestnut Woods Homeowners Association:*

*I am writing in reference to the Chestnut Woods over age 55 development off of West Chestnut Street. As you may recall, you expedited the acceptance of our two streets (Alexandra's Way and Rachel's Way) as city streets.*

*I am now looking to obtain signage at the entrance of the development (Alexandra's Way at West Chestnut Street). The development zoning comes under Sec. 27-27.6 R5 senior residential community. I would bring your attention to Section G Item 7 (Traffic Restrictions). There is reference to signage that is required to prevent unnecessary intrusion of outside traffic into the community.*

*Ideally, we would have signs indicating both "not a thru street" as well as "no turning".*

*As you can imagine as traffic has increased on West Chestnut Street we have observed more cars cutting through and turning around. This becomes a hazard for all of us who live here. Please let me know the proper procedure to make this request of the city. I look forward to hearing from you.*

**VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Steve Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**15. SIGN REQUEST - 202 SUMMER STREET**

*Sign request form received on 5/23/21 from Eileen Milien who resides at 202 Summer Street and is Requesting a "Radar speed sign" due to excessive speeding on street; kids in area and an accident occurred last week. (Board members: see attached Sign Request Form).*

Discussion: Commissioner Porcaro stated that he would have BPB position digital speed signs as they become available.

**VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Steve Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**16. SIGN REQUEST - AMES STREET AND BELL ROCK AVENUE**

*Sign request received from Maria Janvier who resides at 275 Ames Street and is requesting a light at the intersection of Cary Hill and Ames Street... (Board members; see attached Sign Request Form - Ms. Janvier was contacted for clarification of what she was requesting - she would like a light at North Cary Street and Bell Rock Avenue because she has difficulty making a left turn from Ames Street onto North Cary Street).*

**VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Solomon, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**17. SIGN REQUEST - 269 BELMONT AVENUE**

*Sign request form received from Gilberto Rodrigues who resides at 269 Belmont Avenue and is requesting a slow down with children sign because cars are driving too fast. (Board members: see attached Sign Request Form).*

Discussion: Ken Galligan stated the he has seen triangular sign with a person running pictured with no lettering. He asked that Deputy Fire Chief Solomon check into this and bring a picture to the subcommittee review.

Interim DPW Commissioner Hill stated that there is currently a stop sign 50' from the sign location requested.

**VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Solomon, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**18. SIGN REQUEST - ERROL ROAD (WESTERLY)**

*Sign request form received from Kimberly Talis who resides at 26 Errol Road and is requesting a "Dead End" and "Stop" sign on Errol Road crossing over Debbie Road.*

*There was a recent motor vehicle accident at the lights on Quincy Street and Court Street. Traffic was detoured and people were going down Errol Road not realizing it is a dead end and failed to stop going back onto Debbie Road. (Board members: Google Maps picture of area attached).*

**VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.**

Upon motion duly made by Deputy Fire Chief Solomon, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**19. RUTLAND SQUARE**

*Request received from board member, Ken Galligan to review Rutland Square, east end westerly to Warren Avenue for "No Parking" posted on the north side. There is nothing in the records to reflect this and therefore, needs to be documented.*

Discussion: Ken Galligan informed the board that there was a project before the zoning board where they will be converting a factory into 70 units of housing which is why he requested that the parking issue be addressed at this time.

**VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.**

Upon motion duly made by Steve Hooke, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

## **20. MONTELLO STREET - NEAR MBTA STATION**

*Email received from Erick Akesson, Executive Director, Brockton Parking Authority. The BPA is looking into expanding their ticketing in the City and one of the areas they would like to target is the Montello area near the T station. Mr. Akesson would like to discuss what steps need to be taken to start this process. Some of the things he has thought of relate to resident stickers and additional signage that may be needed in this area.*

Discussion: Erik Akesson appeared before the board to discuss his plans for implementing parking enforcement in the Montello area near the MBTA station. He provided a map to board members outlining the current signage on Montello and Main Street from Emerson Avenue to Wilmington Street.

It was recommended that prior to their review, the subcommittee be provided with a list of signage currently on file for Wilmington Street, Field Street, Livingston Road and North Main Street (from Broad Street to Field Street).

**VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.**

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

## **21. CAIRN ROAD**

*Email forwarded from Council Jeff Thompson that was sent by Caitlin Farren who lives on Cairn Rd in Brockton and is asking to get a speed bump on our street. Cairn Rd is a cut through street between East Ashland and Court street. People speed through at rates that astonish my neighbors and me. There are dozens of children on this street and many of us are hesitant to let our kids play outside for fear that they could get hit by a speeding car.*

**VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.**

Upon motion duly made by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, seconded by Steve Hooke, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 6 in the affirmative.

Motion was made by Steve Hooke, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Mary Milligan*

Secretary to Traffic Commission

**\*THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2021. DEADLINE TO ADD ITEMS TO THE MEETING AGENDA IS FRIDAY, JULY 9, 2021.**