



TOWN OF WINDHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE

POST OFFICE BOX 120, 3 NORTH LOWELL ROAD, WINDHAM NH 03087-0120

HIGHWAY SAFETY MEETING

- JULY 20, 2006

On July 20, 2006, the Department Heads discussed the following requests for highway safety improvements and made the following recommendations.

Attendance: David Sullivan, Al Turner, Gerry Lewis, Al Barlow, Tom McPherson, and Jack McCartney were in attendance. Meeting began at 9:00 am at the Administrative Offices.

HIGHWAY SAFETY ISSUES:

Crosswalk – Across from Griffin Park

The Committee discussed the proposed installation of a crosswalk to connect Griffin Park with the parcel across Range Road. The specific parcel has previously been offered to the town as a donation including construction of a parking area. The state regulations allow crosswalks in areas where the speed limit is 35 mph or less. Currently the speed limit in the area is 40 mph. The State DOT feels that a recent area speed study supports 40 mph to be the appropriate speed for the area under consideration and thus will not endorse the crosswalk.

Chief Lewis stated that the State may reconsider the 40 mph speed if the Town can show that the use of the area has changed since Griffin Park was constructed and that the 40 mph zone is no longer appropriate given the change in use.

Al Turner moved to approve the Chief drafting a letter to the State DOT on behalf of both the Police Department and the Highway Safety Committee stating that the use in the area has changed significantly since the construction of Griffin Park and further to endorse lowering the speed limit from Locust Road to Settlers Ridge Road to 35 mph. This area will encompass the area around Griffin Park. Tom McPherson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Depot Road – Trail Crossings –

- The following requests were received from the Windham Rail Trail Alliance:
 - Paint crosswalks on Depot and Frost Roads to provide safe access between road crossing breaks in the paved trail which runs from North Lowell Road to Frost Road, Frost to Depot, and Depot to Roulston Road.
 - Paint “road crossing” signage on the trail approximately 20 feet prior to the road crossings at Depot Road and Frost Road.
 - Install “Pedestrian Crossing” signs on Frost and Depot Road in both directions near the trail.
 - Consider reducing the speed limit in the area.



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- Install temporary barriers along one side of the trail that runs the Depot parking lot.
- Install temporary barriers at the entrance to the parking lot to designate entrance and exit points for vehicles.

The Committee agreed to table any discussions relative to the temporary barriers in the parking lot until the Town meets with DRED officials on July 28th.

The Committee discussed the needs to provide signage in the area to ensure traffic along Depot and Frost was aware of the users of the trail. Mr. Turner moved to support the following improvement:

- Crosswalks on Depot and Frost Road
- "Road Crossing" signs on trail 20' from road crossings
- "Pedestrian Crossing" signs on Depot and Frost Road on either side of the trail area
- "Vehicles Prohibited" signs on both sides of the trail between Frost and Depot Roads as well as at the North Lowell Road entrance to the trail and at the other end at Roulston Road.
- To approach State DRED to discuss moving the present second gate on the trail to the Derry/Windham line to stop ATV traffic from access the trail from that end as it is not allowed.

Mr. McPherson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Morrison Road

- The following request was received:
 - Install a "blind drive" or "slow children" sign near #55 Morrison Road.

Mr. Lewis moved to recommend the Selectmen approve the installation of a "blind drive" sign as requested. Mr. McPherson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Heritage Hill Road

- The following request was received:
 - Install "No Parking" or "No parking during School events" sign on one side of the road due to extreme use of the shoulders during school events.

Both Mr. Lewis and Mr. McPherson felt the town could work with the school department to address this problem. Mr. Turner moved to authorize Mr. Lewis to represent the committee in working with the school to address this issue. Mr. McPherson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.



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PLANNING BOARD PLANS:

Great Mountain View Estates

Mr. Turner advised the Committee that the Court has remanded this subdivision approval back to the Planning Board to review both a connector road or loop road configuration for the subdivision. The Committee has previously reviewed the plans and recommended the connector road for public safety access reasons. The Committee agreed to have Chief McPherson draft a letter to the Planning Board continue supporting the connector road design for reasons of public safety and emergency access, with all members of the Committee signing the letter.

Mr. Barlow moved to adjourn. Mr. Lewis seconded. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

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