

Public Ways Safety Committee Minutes
Bolton, Massachusetts
April 10, 2024

Members present: Mary Ciummo, Michael Keller, Sandy Carpenter, Kathleen Andrews, Chris Strut.

Guest: Town Planner Pamela Harding.

The meeting was held online via Zoom and called to order at 5:05 p.m. The March 27, 2024, meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

- The Committee introduced itself to Pam Harding and discussed the following items:
 - The Committee brought Pam up to date on our current projects including our research on other towns' enforcement of Chapter 90 Section 17C for thickly settled roads, and residents' roadway safety concerns, in particular Green Road and mitigation to date. Pam was also informed of the memorandum of findings on Wattaquadock Hill Road sent to Randy Heglin as part of the Federal Highway Administration's Focus on Reducing Rural Roadway Departures program. Mary will forward the memo to Pam.
 - PWSC and Planning collaboration: While town planner and conservation agent for the town of Holden, Pam was involved with Complete Streets as well as regional planning of pedestrian paths to school. She will add PWSC to her transmittal list to town boards and committees for review and comment of any new developments. At present, the planning department is working on subdivision control regulations. Pam also stated that she was willing to work with Randy on applying for Complete Streets grants.
- Our meeting with Pam concluded at 6:15 and the Committee discussed the following items:
 - Green Road concerns. The Committee was pleased to see that the Police Chief has met with the H.S. principal and athletic director with concerns about the track team practicing on Green Road. We support all of the following suggestions provided:
 - Wearing Hi-Vis reflective vests/clothing for all runners – color coordinated for the season
 - Install "Solar Glare" signage to warn motorists
 - Posting tent signs on the roadway when the runners are on the road
 - Education – SRO McCarthy along with the coaches will expand the current safety modules to include the parents
 - Adjusting run times as needed for solar glare issues

- Review policies and procedures with coaches, update as needed
 - Adjust run times for season changes
- Shandy will research solar glare signs. Mary is still working on the memo.
- Town-wide thickly settled district enforcement policies in other towns. Mike gave information about Acton's enforcement, which covers all roads in the town. The Police are initially giving out warnings instead of citations to give motor vehicle operators time to adjust to the new speed limit. Emphasis was placed on getting the word out townwide, from both the Police Department and Town Hall, primarily through social media.
 - McNulty Road concerns. This is a new concern. Accident data needs to be obtained and Chris will research guard rails as the property is located at the corner of Wattaquadock Hill and McNulty Roads with no barriers to prevent cars from going off road into the yard.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted Mary Ciummo