

Public Ways Safety Committee Minutes
Bolton, Massachusetts
October 11, 2017

Members present: Mary Ciummo, Leslie Breeze, Holly Lauer, and Mike Keller. Also in attendance were Eric Morgan and his young daughter Bridgette of Golden Run Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

The minutes of the September 27, 2017 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Committee welcomed Mike Keller, a Pondside resident, as a new member.

Resident Road Safety Concerns- Golden Run – Eric Morgan spoke of his concerns with traffic issues on Golden Run Road: truck traffic, narrowness of the roadway, excessive speed of vehicles, and lack of signage warning of children in the area. He also suggested he'd be happy if there was a speed bump on the road. Committee acknowledged that while it is a scenic road it is often seen as a 'cut-through' for vehicles wishing to avoid Main Street. We reported the results of a quick speed survey done on Golden Run Road by the police department on August 7th at the evening rush hour (5:09pm- 6:09pm). They noted 78 westbound vehicles with an average speed of 30MPH (low of 24MPH, high of 38MPH, only one vehicle traveling about 36MPH) and 27 eastbound vehicles with an average speed of 28MPH (low of 21MPH, high of 31MPH). We discussed that the survey having been done in the summer may not show the true volume of traffic that typically is on the road. However, it does demonstrate that the narrowness and character of the road acts as a natural speed deterrent. We discussed the unposted speed limit of 40MPH on the road and how to go about petitioning the selectmen for a speed study to reduce the speed limit. The committee would support such an action. We also discussed restricting thru-traffic or prohibiting truck traffic on the roadway. As for signage warnings for children, we pointed out that those types of signs are largely ineffective over the long term. The committee has concerns that residents from every street could ask for such signage as children are everywhere throughout the town. Eric expressed concerns with high speeds of UPS type delivery vehicles as well. Mike suggested that Eric reach out to the Chief of Police who has spoken with known local drivers in a similar case with a successful outcome. Speed bumps were rejected by the former head of DPW because of plowing issues. We will find out what the opinion of the new department head is when one is hired. Use of plastic or rubber, removable speed bumps was suggested as well.

Resident Road Safety Concerns- Main at Wattaquaddock- Police Chief Nelson forwarded the concerns of resident Nancy O'Connell to PWSC. She had contacted the Town Hall wishing to speak with Selectmen about the difficulty of crossing Main Street at Wattaquaddock. The

committee agreed that we should request pedestrian activated crosswalks at both Mechanic and Wattaquaddock intersections.

Complete Streets- We discussed a recent Complete Streets meeting at the high school intersection and the first proposed draft. There are typos, mentions of Stow and some committees we do not have. Erica has been notified of these issues. Also, it was noted that sharrows which were discussed at the meeting were not mentioned in the documentation.

Town Website Update- Mary attended a training session for the new town website. All of the reports have been transferred, but we noticed that our minutes have not been included on the website for some time. We also realized we have been submitting a hard copy of the minutes but not a digital copy to Town Hall. Holly will contact Linda Day to rectify our lack of digital minutes.

Town Roads Strategic Planning Committee- This committee has been officially formed and contains six members residing on various roads in town. Don Lowe had suggested this committee would work with PWSC in some way, but we need to seek clarification of expectations.

Discussion of Topics for meeting with Town Administrator on Nov. 1st- We are meeting with Don at 10:30am.

- Increase in traffic concerns this committee is getting
- Pedestrian cross lights
- Complete Streets
- Impact of No DPW Director
- Our involvement with Town Roads Strategic Planning Committee
- Speed limit in Town Center
- Status of speed feedback signs

We are cancelling the meeting on October 25 in lieu of meeting with Don on November 1st.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.

Minutes submitted Holly Lauer.