

Minutes

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING

of

February 20, 2019

7:00a

COMMISSION PRESENT: Frank Pyles, Michael Holloran, Fred Davis, Mike Kilkenny, Brent Bybee and Larry Fairclo

ABSENT MEMBERS: One vacancy

STAFF PRESENT: Chris Harrell – Transportation Manager, Russ Brown – City Council representative, Jeff Kienlen – Police Safety Officer, Jean Corbin – Department Secretary and Cindy Kever – Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

Brent Bybee asked to change a word on Page 2, Old Business, Item C, second paragraph, from bolster to widen. Partial sentence will now read, *widen* the painted lines, etc. Brent made a motion to approve the amended January minutes. Mike Kilkenny seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

OLD BUSINESS:

A) 2nd & Washington West Bound Left Turn Lane

Chris Harrell told the Commission he had submitted a Traffic Control Device request to the Public Works Director and City Manager for their review and approval to widen the painted lines and lengthen the turn lane area to accommodate two vehicles on 2nd Street at the Washington Street intersection. Staff looked at the intersection of 2nd Street at Union and it was determined the turn lane area cannot be extended because a driveway into a private lot is too close.

B) Radar Trailer on Dry Hollow b/t 14th & 19th Streets

Chris reported the radar sign has been ordered and his hope it will be installed before the March meeting. It will be mounted on a post that has the potential to be moved but at this time the Public Works Director does not think that is an ideal solution for other problem areas. While this sign is not in a school zone it does take into effect the children walking to the Dry Hollow School.

Russ Brown suggested revisiting this subject after school is out to see if it could be used in other areas to remind drivers to watch their speed. No action needed at this time.

C) Cell Phone Usage While Driving

Russ asked Officer Kienlen if there was something the City Council could do to help minimize cell phone usage. Officer Kienlen said April is National Distracted Driving Awareness month and April 11th will be the week of heavy enforcement. Suggestions were made to coordinate with ODOT regarding billboard space for the April campaign. The City also has PCMS boards (Portable Changeable Message Signs) available that can be placed in prominent locations to help get the word out too.

D) Dry Hollow School and Blue Zone Inspired Improvements

Michael Holloran expressed his disappointment that the City wasn't able to secure any of the grant money that was recently made available for improvements. The pop up parking area had been implemented at the Dry Hollow School. City liaison with Blue Zones, Dale McCabe, had a conflict of meetings, so Cindy Kever told the Commission there were 112 applicants applying for the 16 million dollars of grant money for a total request of 85 million dollars. Dale though possibly The Dalles did not receive any grant dollars because the Dry Hollow project involved safer parking options for parents using vehicles to drop off and pick up their children (and not walkability improvement projects).

NEW BUSINESS:

A) Discussion was held regarding all of the snow we have recently experienced and Chris explained the City's priority list for clearing streets during snow events.

B) Officer Kienlen told the group he had recently attended a Traffic Safety Conference and he learned in 2017 there were 38,000 traffic related deaths. He will be working on a campaign to slow drivers down and also wants to work towards changing the mindsets of people who speed in The Dalles.

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There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mike Kilkenny moved to adjourn. Brent Bybee seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Cindy Keever
Administrative Secretary
City of The Dalles Public Works

Final approval


Frank Pyles