

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
March 15, 2017

COMMISSION PRESENT: Frank Pyles, Fred Davis, Chuck Covert, Mike Kilkenny,
Donna Lawrence, Michael Holloran and Brent Bybee

ABSENT MEMBERS: none

STAFF PRESENT: Dale McCabe – City Engineer, Bill Barrier – Transportation
Supervisor, Pat Ashmore – Chief of Police and Cindy
Keever – Administrative Secretary

PUBLIC PRESENT: Larry Fairclo

Chuck Covert made a motion to approve the February minutes. Mike Kilkenny seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Fairclo, owner of Diamond F Driving School spoke with the Commission regarding a “No Texting while Driving” project that he is initiating. He shared his ideas on getting the word out to drivers thru a sign campaign along 2nd Street (from the roundabout west on 2nd Street). He estimates the project will take 33 people to make it effective.

A discussion was held regarding this project and possibly adding 3rd Street to the saturation area. Chief Ashmore suggested something broader, such as a “Distracted Driving” awareness campaign. Another suggestion was made that participating in the upcoming Cherry Festival would provide a lot of exposure. Commission members liked Larry’s ideas and gave a general blessing to the project.

Larry will make some of the suggested changes and will keep the Commission in the loop.

OLD BUSINESS:

A) Painting Curbs & Installing ADA Signs - Webber @ 8th Street Intersection

Bill Barrier clarified the work that needs to be done at the Webber & 8th Street intersection. ADA signs need to be installed and blue paint for the ADA ramps needs to be sprayed on the curbs. Both will occur once the weather warms up.

B) Downtown Parking Task Force

Dale McCabe said the Task Force had given their final report on February 27th. The City Manager and the City Council will now be able to use the findings for future goals.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) Walking Hazard in 1000 Block of E 11th

Fred Davis said he has noticed a house under construction in the 1000 block of E 11th that has a lot of dirt sloughing off onto the sidewalk and street. This is causing people to walk into the street to avoid the dirt on the sidewalk. City staff will look at the area.

B) Ordinance Regarding Bald Tires

Bill talked to the group about a Hood River Ordinance he has heard about regarding ticketing people who drive on bald tires and cause traffic problems. He will try and obtain the ordinance for viewing at the April meeting.

Pat talked about the economics of purchasing studded tires and a program thru the Oregon State Police called "Car Quest" that gives a huge discount to help families get equipment fixed.

Chuck Covert asked how the pothole repair program was going? Bill said his crews are currently at 21st & View Court repairing a large patch and then they will move to 14th & Lewis to do some repairs there. The asphalt hot mix plants will start up soon and pothole patching will begin in conjunction with the start of that season.

Chief Ashmore talked about drivers not stopping at crosswalks for pedestrians and a Task Force that has been established to look at some of the issues. One problem is that vehicles are parking (legally) very close to the crosswalk and drivers have a difficult time seeing the pedestrians waiting to cross the road.

Chief Ashmore asked about the status of the speed signs around the Wahtonka campus. A discussion was held because the Wahtonka campus does hold school year around and the speed signs need to indicate their year around status.

Michael Holloran made a motion to change West 10th (from Hostetler to west of Chenowith Loop) and Chenowith Loop (from Irvine to 10th Street) to a 20mph speed zone during school hours.

Donna seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

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

Cindy Keever
Administrative Secretary
City of The Dalles Public Works

Final approval

Frank Pyles