



**NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 10, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM by Chairman Santi Condorelli in the Library at Laning Avenue School.

ROLL CALL

Santi Condorelli, Mary Cooksey-Wilks, Gerard Shimonaski, Louis Koenig, Robert Rowbotham, Rui Dionisio, Susan DeWitt, Officer Captain Stephen DePoe representing Chief Christopher Kiernan, Howard Freund, Laning Ave. Principal and Councilman Jack McEvoy were present. Matthew Cavallo and Nicole Quick were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the November 7, 2018 meeting were approved with all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion

- Suggestion to make Forest Ave one way from Pease to Morningside (going Southbound) from 7:30 to 9 AM to make drop off safer. Some of the Montclair Schools do this.
- FN Brown – more kids will be getting out at 2:45 PM now that kindergarten will be full day as of 1/28/2019. Kindergarten will be dismissed into the parking lot on the south end of the school. Concern for the kids safety as parents do park in that lot even though they are not supposed to. Suggestion to put barrels across driveway to keep cars out. Maybe crossing guard could do it? Suggestion to have custodians place cones as guard does not start until 2:30 and parents are already at school waiting to pick up kids when guard arrives.
- Barrels at Middle School seem to be working well.
- Traffic issue in morning when cars are coming out of Claremont onto Bloomfield Ave and attempting to get across to left turn lane onto Lakeside which backs things up.

- Question was asked about traffic in back lot of Laning backing up in Morning. Principal reports that the kids that get dropped off there don't get let into building until all teachers and para's are present as these children need more supervision than the ones in the front.
- Laning Principal reports things work well for the most part as roadway is one way. Several times throughout school year they encounter a problem with trash collection occurring during same time as drop off but not a constant event.
- Concern for speeding on Lanning and unsafe parking but most of that is the parents.
- FN Brown – Can crossing guards stop traffic less as it causes backup. Crossing guard has been instructed to try to stop traffic less. Sometimes cars see children and they stop. Guard is not allowed to direct them to go as guards cannot direct traffic.
- Parents lingering in drop off zone and parking at yellow curbs is an issue. Suggestion for possible walking post in this area with enforcement as necessary may help to solve problem.
- Concern about speeding on streets surrounding school (Claremont, Elmwood, Otsego) what was outcome of discussion several meetings ago about placing speed signs on Claremont?
- Forest – issues with parents parking on East side of street and dropping off kids and having them cross midblock. Also parking too close to corners and crosswalks. Suggestion sporadic enforcement in this area.
- VHS traffic flows much better since they have created 2 lanes in the loop.
- Question was asked if Sampson Drive could be made one way going eastbound instead of westbound.
- Franklin/Grove – can curbs be painted yellow north of Franklin to allow better view for cars going east on Franklin. Suggestion of better enforcement in area.
- Encourage people to call building dept. if sidewalks are not shoveled within 24 hours of the end of a snowstorm.
- Can we remind someone to shovel Linden Ave bridge after snowstorms?
- Crossing Guards are needed. See flyer that has been sent out over various social media sites.
- Are there any grants for traffic studies?
- Assisted Living facility is being discussed tonight at Board of Adjustment Meeting, 8 PM at VCC.
- Discussion about warmer attire for crossing guards. Suggestion was made to see if some civic groups would be willing to donate money to purchase necessary items.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:54 PM. The next meeting will be Wednesday February 20, 2019 at 7 PM. Meeting will be held in the Conference Room at the Verona Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted

Susan DeWitt
Secretary