

**CITY OF NEWARK  
Newark, Delaware**

**TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING  
February 19, 2008  
3:30 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Chief Paul Tiernan, Roy Lopata, Lt. Susan Poley, Rich Lapointe, Tom Parkins, Dave Gula, Rick Vitelli, Tom Sciulli

**Absent:** Carol Houck, Susan Lamblack

**Guests:** Marilyn Gleeber, Newark resident

**1. REQUEST FOR STOP SIGN ON DUNSMORE DRIVE AT WHITE CHAPEL DRIVE.**

Chief Tiernan received a letter from a resident of White Chapel who requested a stop sign at White Chapel and Dunsmore Drive. Lt. Poley contacted the individual for additional information and was advised that the resident would like to have the stop sign on White Chapel to slow traffic that is speeding on that roadway. The resident also indicated that she is concerned for the safety of the children who cross the street to go to White Chapel Park. She suggested a three-way stop sign at this intersection so that traffic would stop on White Chapel as well as Dunsmore Drive. Lt. Poley stated that there is only one stop sign in the development at Aylesboro Road and Witherspoon Lane. There were 10 accidents on White Chapel since 2002—three in 2007, three in 2006, two in 2005, one in 2004, and one in 2002. A speed survey was not done.

Rich Lapointe said he parked near this intersection before attending today's meeting, and only five cars passed thru the intersection in a span of 10 minutes, which would not be consistent with to the requirements for a stop sign.

Tom Sciulli said that there are plans to build a significant number of homes in this area. Dave Gula suggested putting at least one stop sign on White Chapel Drive to slow traffic and make motorists aware that they are in a residential area. Mr. Lapointe suggested asking the developer to erect speed limit signs.

Roy Lopata suggested that stop signs be installed on each of the side streets (Dunsmore, Turnbridge, Farnsworth and Aylesboro) at the intersection of White Chapel Drive.

**MOTION BY ROY LOPATA, SECONDED BY TOM SCIULLI, TO RECOMMEND STOP SIGNS NORTHBOUND ON DUNSMORE, TURNBRIDGE, FARNSWORTH AND AYLESBORO AT THE INTERSECTION WITH WHITE CHAPEL DRIVE.**

Lt. Poley said that the request is being made for a stop sign on White Chapel Drive to slow traffic. Mr. Sciulli said that based on future development, he believes there is a need for the stop signs on the side streets. Mr. Lopata also felt that the accident history is significant.

**MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 5 to 3**

**AYE: Chief Tiernan, Roy Lopata, Tom Sciulli, Rick Vitelli, Tom Parkins.**

**NAY: Lt. Susan Poley, Dave Gula, Rich Lapointe.**

**2. CONSIDER EXTENDING “NO STOPPING, STANDING OR PARKING” ZONE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE TO 625 WEST FROM NEW LONDON ROAD.**

Lt. Poley said a resident of Fairfield contacted her and asked that the no parking zone on the south side of Country Club Drive be extended to Stamford Drive. Currently, parking is permitted on the north side of Country Club Drive, and the no parking zone on the south side ends at Woodmont Drive. The resident indicated that the parked cars narrow the roadway, making it difficult to turn left from Stamford Drive onto Country Club Drive. Mr. Lapointe said the roadway is 32 feet wide, which should be adequate even with cars parked on both sides of the street. Mr. Parkins said that the parked cars act as traffic calming. Mr. Gula said that cars tend to speed on Country Club Drive so the parked cars serve to slow traffic.

**MOTION BY RICH LAPOINTE, SECONDED BY RICK VITELLI, TO TAKE NO ACTION ON THE REQUEST TO EXTEND THE “NO STOPPING, STANDING OR PARKING” ZONE ON COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE.**

**MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 7 TO 1**

**AYE: Chief Tiernan, Lt. Poley, Tom Sciulli, Rich Lapointe, Rick Vitelli, Tom Parkins, Dave Gula.**

**NAY: Roy Lopata**

**3. TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN NEWARK.**

Marilyn Gleeber said that several years ago, the Traffic Committee recommended painting a solid white line on Cleveland Avenue at

Kirkwood Highway to prevent cars from turning into the other lane of traffic. She asked when this would be done. Mr. Lopata said he believes that the line has been painted and the other members agreed.

Ms. Gleeber also expressed her concern for the traffic congestion in Newark and said that there have been numerous discussions through the years about developing a bypass around the City. Mr. Lopata said that the City has participated in numerous studies, committees were formed, and resolutions passed; however, the roadways involved are all maintained by the Delaware Department of Transportation. There is very little the City can do until the State decides to move forward on this project. He suggested that Ms. Gleeber contact her legislators and express her concerns. Ms. Gleeber also complained about the timing of the traffic signals on Kirkwood Highway, and Mr. Lopata said he understands her frustration, but again, the signals are all maintained by the Delaware Department of Transportation.

There being no further business, Chief Tiernan called for a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION BY TOM SCIULLI, SECONDED BY DAVE GULA, TO ADJOURN.**

**MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 8 TO 0.**

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Paul M. Tiernan, Chairman

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