

Lower Makefield Township  
Citizens Traffic Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
April 20, 2009

Present: Ginni Torbert, Vice Chair                      Sue Herman  
          Art Cohn     Bruce McClish  
          Dick Davino                                         Scott Weaner  
          Gary Gilman (attended part of mtg.)

Also present: Heather Sherk, TPD

Ginni opened the regularly scheduled meeting of the Citizens Traffic Commission at 7:30PM.

Public Comment - There were no residents in attendance.

Fall Safe Driving Campaign and Deer/Vehicle Collision Issue – Ginni gave an update on the March 18, 2009 Board of Supervisors meeting, in which the BOS voted to reduce the Township deer population using sharpshooters. The Township is required to obtain a permit from the Pennsylvania Game Commission before proceeding with the hunt, and may have to include some bow and arrow hunting, along with the sharpshooting, in order to obtain its permit.

The CTC, at their March 20, 2009, meeting, passed a resolution stating that the CTC believes an effective driver education program can be effective in reducing deer/vehicle collisions. Therefore, the CTC intends to include a segment on specific driver behaviors geared toward prevention of animal/vehicle collisions as part of the 2009/2010 Safe Driving Campaign. There was discussion regarding the lack of available data on deer/vehicle collisions in the Township and that the Police Department and Public Works Department would be two sources for this information. Sue will write a letter to Terry Fedorchak, and copy Chief Coluzzi and Captain Roche, asking for data collected to date that shows the time, place and date of deer-vehicle collisions throughout the Township, as well as a report from the Public Works Department on the approximate location where deer carcasses have been picked up from the roads. Sue will request that all accident reports for the last three years that involve deer be sent to Heather Sherk for review. . Once this info is available, the CTC will be in a better position, in consultation with TPD and LMT, to recommend appropriate measures to mitigate collisions. Jeanne will compile a list of hints for avoiding collisions with deer, and explore ways of getting the hints out to the public, for educational purposes.

Re the Fall 2009/2010 Safe Driving Campaign, Sue offered to be liaison between the Campaign subcommittee and the CTC. The subcommittee members are Alison Smith, Andrea Meyers, Art Cohn, and Jeanne Bray. Sue will schedule a meeting with the group, as soon as possible. Jeanne will deliver DVDs from the 2008 Safe Driving Campaign to Alison and Andrea, so they can review them before the meeting. Sue will contact the Special Events Committee to see if one of their members would be available to attend our meeting and share their thoughts and ideas.

Matrix Road Improvements at Octagon Center – Heather reported that the only improvement will be the relocation of old Oxford Valley Road, there will be a stop sign at the end of the relocated road and

there may be signal retiming at Big Oak and Oxford Valley. Stacking may be an issue until improvements are completed. The lines of site are within PennDOT guidelines.

Update on West Ferry Working Group – The police will be taking baseline traffic counts on West Ferry Road this week. Christy Staudt from TPD reviewed a map which identifies those areas where she wants the counts to be taken. The counts may be repeated in May on West Ferry and some additional streets as well. Sue asked if we are making a mistake concentrating on the statistics. Ginni responded that these counts are to allow for measurement of the impact of whatever traffic calming is eventually done and to demonstrate to all parties that there is a problem. Some of the non-West Ferry Road residents don't have confidence in the numbers they have seen so far. Ginni said that, once everyone is convinced there is a problem, she would like to work on gathering qualitative data. Surveys of residents have been done by various individuals, but Ginni does not believe any of them are definitive. Sue said that, if the CTC and Township feel there is a safety issue, the residents should be given some choices. Christy has a meeting with Terry, Chief Coluzzi and Hank Hoffmeister tomorrow, to review her design information.

Update on Stoopville Road/Washington Crossing Road Intersection – Sue reported that, at the April 1 BOS meeting, the latest design – with the spur added back in – was approved. Heather will follow up with the design engineer regarding the status of PennDOT's review of the plan.

Stony Hill Road Improvements – Heather reported that there is nothing new.

Update on Frankford Hospital – There is no hearing scheduled for May, but there will be two in June.

Discussion of Update to 2008 CTC Report to Board of Supervisors – Ginni asked everyone to look through the update list for any changes. She commented that there is no precedent on how to present the updates to the Board of Supervisors. Bruce thinks we need to work on a procedure and get Terry to buy into it; he distributed a suggested procedure for the updates. Gary suggested the CTC meet with Terry on the updates first. Heather commented that most of the stimulus money is going through the County. Bruce suggested the CTC compile a list of projects that could benefit from government stimulus money. Sue said this process would require a lot of labor, and questioned whether this means we need more committee members. Bruce suggested we determine how we want the CTC to run and possibly assign liaisons for different aspects of the CTC's responsibilities. He also suggested we do a report on the CTC's 2008 accomplishments. Sue asked if we should all e-mail our thoughts on what the CTC mission should be.

Ginni asked for all changes on update memo within the next two weeks, so that she can get the revised copy to Terry by May 4.

The minutes from the March 16, 2009 Citizens Traffic Commission meeting were approved unanimously, with one change.

With no further business to discuss, the April 20 meeting of the Citizens Traffic Commission was adjourned at 10:30PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Citizens Traffic Commission will be held on May 18, 2009 at the LMT municipal building at 7:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Bray, Recording Secretary