

Lower Makefield Township  
Citizens Traffic Commission  
March 15, 2010  
Meeting Minutes

Present: Virginia Torbert, Chairperson  
Richard Davino  
William Hogan  
Scott Weaner

Also in attendance: Bill Hogan, Resident

Absent: Arthur Cohn, Vice- Chairperson, Susan Herman  
Greg Caiola, Supervisor Liaison

Ms. Torbert opened the March 15, 2010 meeting of the Citizens Traffic Commission at 7:40PM.

Introduction of New Member – Ms. Torbert introduced Mr. William Hogan, who was recently appointed to the Citizens Traffic Commission. Mr. Hogan has lived in Lower Makefield Township for 14 years, runs a driving school in Newtown, and works part-time for Porsche, teaching drivers how to race cars. Mr. Hogan's first exposure to the Citizens Traffic Commission was the 2009 Safe Driving Event. He mentioned that parents get reduced insurance rates for their teenagers who have taken an approved, licensed driver education program and that Pennsbury is the only school district in our area which offers driver education.

Public Comment – Bill Hogan (no relation to William Hogan), who lives on Big Oak Road near Pine Grove Road, spoke about how dangerous that intersection is.

Approval of February 18, 2010 Minutes – The February 18, 2010 meeting minutes of the Citizens Traffic Commission were approved unanimously, as written. (Virginia Torbert voted Sue Herman's proxy in order to have an adequate number of votes.)

Safe Driving Event Discussion – Ms. Torbert introduced a recap of the 2009 Safe Driving Event, which Ms. Herman had prepared. Ms. Torbert asked that everyone review the document and provide her with suggested changes by March 22. She believes it will be useful in planning for this year's event and can be provided to potential sponsors. Dick Davino has already been in contact with a potential sponsor who has requested this type of information. It was agreed that the first step in planning the 2010 event would be to draft an agenda. Decisions and next steps are:

- Ms. Torbert asked that everyone send her suggestions for an overall theme (Ms. Torbert suggested "distracted driving" as one possible theme) and agenda/format as soon as possible. That will allow us to move forward on the critical second step, getting one or more sponsors.
- This year's event will again be held in October. Ms. Bray will see what the availability is at the Township building for October 2010 Saturdays. There was discussion of considering other venues.
- Ms. Torbert asked Mr. Hogan to think about ways the kids can get the message about how distracting technology is.
- It was agreed that the event should be no longer than 2 ½ or 3 hours.

- Mr. Hogan volunteered to try to track down an affordable simulator.

Deer/Vehicle Collisions Project - Mr. Weaner distributed a draft Google Map on which he identified locations where there were deer/vehicle accidents or deer carcasses retrieved based on the LMTPD data compiled by Dick Davino. The CTC plans to use this information as the basis for a recommendation to the Township on additional safety measures for reducing deer/vehicle accidents in specific locations. Mr. Hogan said that he has a list of places where foliage needs to be cut back. After Mr. Weaner has finalized the report, which will be done by the next meeting, the CTC will discuss next steps.

Other Business – Ms. Torbert gave an update on the Scudder’s Falls Bridge Project. There will be a picture (camera-based) toll, most likely coming south into Pennsylvania; drivers with E-Z Pass will be able to go straight through, while those without E-Z Pass will be billed for the toll, and fined. She said there are bridges in other parts of the country that are all-camera. She asked for an update from Mr. Davino on the February 22, 2010 Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission (DRJTBC) meeting. Mr. Davino reported that State Representative Steve Santarsiero requested extensions of the noise walls at three different locations and that an impact study be done regarding the diversion of traffic as a result of tolling. The DRJTBC agreed to do an impact study, but will not incorporate it into the environmental study. Mr. Davino mentioned that there were Indian artifacts found along the Delaware River near the bridge site and that there will be a one million dollar rehab of the Calhoun Street Bridge, which will be closed for ten months. Ms. Torbert asked Mr. Davino to make a list of his additional questions and send them to Rep. Santarsiero for follow up at the next meeting; Mr. Davino indicated he may go to the meeting and ask the questions himself.

Ms. Torbert talked about a telephone conversation she had with Township Manager, Terry Fedorchak, about the need to further reduce costs for CTC meetings. Ms. Sherk, from the Township’s traffic engineering firm, Traffic Planning and Design, will no longer attend all meetings; if her presence is required at a meeting, Ms. Torbert will get approval from Mr. Fedorchak before inviting her. In addition, Ms. Torbert will make every effort to limit meeting times and will make changes to the minutes and send them out to the group herself, rather than having the Recording Secretary do it to reduce expenditures..

With no further business to discuss, the March 15, 2010 meeting of the Citizens Traffic Commission was adjourned at 9:45PM. The next meeting will be Monday, April 19, 2010, at the LMT municipal building, at 7:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Bray, Recording Secretary