

Lower Makefield Township
Citizens Traffic Commission
November 18, 2013
Meeting Minutes

Present: Virginia Torbert, Chairperson Susan Herman
Arthur Cohn, Vice Chairperson Craig Hyman
Jeff Benedetto, BOS Liaison Scott Weaner
Richard Davino

Absent: William Hogan

Also Present: Susan and Chris Markham, LMT Residents

Mrs. Torbert called the November 18, 2013 meeting of the Citizens Traffic Commission to order at 7:30PM.

Mr. and Mrs. Markham explained that State Representative Steve Santarsiero suggested they present their traffic concern to the CTC. They live on River Road between Woodside and Mr. Eyre Roads and have experienced many close calls while gardening in front of their house due to excessive speeds, which they estimate to be as high as 70 mph at times, and no shoulder on either side of the road. Mr. Benedetto noted that this is not the first time someone has complained of speeding on that part of River Road. It was noted that River Road is a State road and that the part of the road that belongs to the State may extend beyond the white lines on either side. The Markhams are not suggesting that there have been accidents in that area, but are afraid that it is just a matter of time before there are accidents resulting from the speeding.

It was explained that changing a speed limit or implementing any other speed reduction techniques would require a speed study first, which has to be ordered by PennDOT. Mr. Hyman said that enforcement is often very effective; the Markhams and the CTC will ask the LMT Police Department to provide enforcement and to initiate a speed study between Upper Makefield and Yardley. Mr. Benedetto will forward the information on the previous complaint to the Markhams. There was discussion of the Markhams' petition, putting signs on residents' lawns with "slow down" and "do not litter" messages, and starting a River Road facebook page.

Resident Traffic Concerns

Temple Drive – Mrs. Torbert referenced an e-mail from Chief Coluzzi regarding Temple Drive and mentioned that Mr. Hyman had expressed some engineering concerns regarding the steps that were being suggested. One had to do with the speed limit sign; Mr. Hyman said that it should not be installed any closer to the intersection than 200'. The second concern was the Watch Children sign(s); he said it

cannot be paired with a speed limit sign. There are strict guidelines on putting signs together. Mr. Benedetto will send a note to Chief Coluzzi outlining Mr. Hyman's concerns. Mr. Hyman noted that Watch Children signs are for neighborhoods where there are no sidewalks; since this neighborhood has sidewalks, the signs would not normally be placed there.

Regarding the piles of leaves on the road at this time of year, Mr. Benedetto will discuss it with Mr. Kall and Mrs. Torbert will send an e-mail to Chief Coluzzi to ask if they have caused accidents.

Edgewood/ Yardley-Makefield Roads Traffic Signal – Mr. Fedorchak told Mrs. Torbert that he would look into the timing of the signal; Mr. Benedetto will follow up with him. The timing should also be checked at the Yardley-Morrisville and Black Rock Roads intersection. There was also discussion of the Yardley-Newtown and Mirror Lake Roads intersection and the Yardley-Newtown and Stony Hill Roads intersection; in both cases, when you take a right on red, other drivers may be taking a left into the same lane at the same time.

2013 Accident Reports

Mrs. Torbert had collated the information and discovered that out of 78 accidents, 32 were either at Yardley- Newtown and Stony Hill Road intersection or on the I95 exit or entrance ramps. The second highest number was at the intersection of Big Oak and Oxford Valley Roads. Mrs. Torbert requested September and October data from Chief Coluzzi. Mr. Hyman will forward some additional accident information to Mrs. Torbert. A report will be produced once there is information for a full year.

Traffic Calming Guidelines – Mr. Benedetto will follow up with Mr. Fedorchak about adding the CTC presentation on the Traffic Calming Guidelines to the agenda.

Approval of September and October 2013 CTC Meeting Minutes – The September 2013 meeting minutes were approved unanimously, as written. The October 2013 meeting minutes were unanimously approved, as amended.

Other Business – Mr. Weaner has mailed the thank you letters for the Safe Driving Event; a check for \$100 has been received from Mr. Hogan.

There was further discussion of the wording for the Share the Road letter. Mr. Hyman said that one option is to put a Share The Road sign in conjunction with a pedestrian sign. However, he feels it is difficult to justify putting one on Mt. Eyre Road because one complaint does not warrant signage.

Mrs. Torbert handed out copies of a press release on the Scudder Falls Replacement Bridge to CTC members and asked them to review it for discussion at the next meeting.

With no further business to discuss, the November 18, 2013 meeting of the Citizens Traffic Commission was adjourned at 9:30PM. The next meeting of the CTC will be held on Monday, December 15, 2013, at 7:30PM in the LMT municipal building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Torbert, Chairperson