

Lower Makefield Township
Citizens Traffic Commission
May 17, 2010
Meeting Minutes

Present: Virginia Torbert, Chairperson Susan Herman
 Arthur Cohn, Vice Chairperson William Hogan
 Richard Davino Scott Weaner

Absent: Greg Caiola, Supervisor Liaison

Mrs. Torbert opened the May 17, 2010 meeting of the Lower Makefield Township Citizens Traffic Commission at 7:30PM.

Approval of April 19, 2010 Minutes – The April 19, 2010 minutes of the Citizens Traffic Commission were approved, unanimously, as written.

Resident Traffic Concerns –

- a. Derbyshire and Big Oak Roads – Mrs. Torbert distributed copies of a report written by Capt. Roche, of LMT's Police Department, in response to a citizen's concerns about driver confusion caused by an unmarked turn lane at the intersection of Big Oak Road and Derbyshire. After discussion, it was decided that Mrs. Torbert would draft a letter to Township Manager, Terry Fedorchak, copying the LMT Supervisors, requesting that Heather Sherk, from Traffic Planning and Design, investigate this concern, and asking for a written follow up from the Township to the CTC as to what actions will be taken.
- b. Yardley-Newtown Road (between Mirror Lake Road and Afton Avenue) - Jean Broadway, an LMT resident who lives on Rt. 332, was in attendance to discuss her concerns relating to the number of deer who cross 332 near her house, and the excessive speed of some cars particularly along the narrow unshouldered stretch of Rt. 332 between Creamery Road and Buck Creek Circle. She would like to see some steps taken to alert people to the possible presence of deer, and the speed limit reduced to 40 mph up to the light at 332 and Afton Avenue. This issue will be included in the letter to Mr. Fedorchak, which will include suggestions from the CTC. Mrs. Bray will contact the Streiter Lite people re the possibility of any grants which might be available to purchase the Lites to help prevent deer/car collisions in the area.
- c. Yardley-Newtown Road near I-95 Interchange – Mrs. Torbert spoke about a problem, almost directly across from her driveway, on Rt. 332, near the northbound exit from I-95. She distributed pictures to illustrate her concerns. Going Eastbound on Rt. 332, the road goes down from four lanes with shoulders to two lanes without shoulders. There is very little warning, a very short distance for cars to merge down to one lane eastbound and cars often end up going off the road into the ditch or cornfield. A discussion followed of PennDOT and FHA regulations regarding warning and regulatory signs. This location will also be included in the letter to Mr. Fedorchak.

Safe Driving Event Discussion - The name of the event was tentatively determined to be "Project Zero – Driving toward Zero Accidents." The topics will include texting and phone, seat belts, and drinking and

driving. It was suggested that it is important for the financial implications for parents be part of the discussion, i.e., how much rates will go up if the teen driver has an accident.

- Program –
 - Mr. Hogan suggested that there needs to be some “shock and awe”, but that it should not be overdone.
 - Mr. Cohn and Mrs. Herman heard a Philadelphia policewoman speak, and were very impressed; Mrs. Herman will send Mr. Cohn a summary from last year, which he will forward to the policewoman. She is willing to do a 20-minute presentation.
 - Mr. Hogan offered to do a 20 minute presentation on the parent/teen contract he uses in his driving school. He will forward copies of the contract and script to Mrs. Herman.
 - Mr. Torbert strongly suggested that the event include a 5 minute Hulu blurb showing a humorous but instructive Taylor Swift skit on distracted driving.
 - There was some discussion about reusing the COW video on texting and driving.
 - Mr. Hogan spoke about a card game that he uses in classes, to illustrate the dangers of distracted driving. He will gather statistics related to distracted driving.
 - Mrs. Herman will speak to Officer Pell of LMT’s Police Department about doing a 15 minute presentation.
 - Mr. Weaner and Mr. Hogan will continue to search for an appropriate interactive activity. It was agreed that the teens have already had opportunities to experience the drunk goggles.
- Location – It was agreed that the event will be held in a school, for additional space. Mr. Caiola had previously indicated that he will ask the school to waive the normal fee.
- Timing – We will not know the best date in October/November to hold the event until after mid-June, when Mrs. Herman will receive the Pennsbury calendar.
- Publicity –
 - Mrs. Herman will talk to the drivers education instructors in the schools about giving credit to the students who attend the Event.
 - Mr. Hogan will mail out the flyer to his contacts in his driving education business.
 - Mrs. Bray will find out what the schedule is for the LMT newsletter.
 - Mr. Hogan will speak to Mr. McCaffrey about keeping the flyer prominently displayed in his store.
 - Mrs. Herman will contact Becky Cecchine, LMT’s Tax Collector, for information on sponsors and advertising used by the LMT Special Events Committee.
- Sponsors –
 - Mr. Davino said his contact with Erie Insurance had still not heard from headquarters regarding their interest in sponsoring the event. It was agreed that the members would move on and try to find other sponsors.
 - Mr. Hogan offered to be a sponsor for \$500 and suggested that it might be a good idea to get at least one other sponsor, for another \$500. He will talk to Mr. McCaffrey about sponsoring, probably in July, and would like to have a program summary to present at that time.
 - Mr. Cohn will contact his agent at State Farm. Mr. Cohn and Mr. Davino will do some research on other sponsors before the next meeting.

Other Business –

- Development Updates – Edgewood Crossing and Octagon Phase 2 were both approved at the last BOS meeting. Mrs. Torbert was concerned that the Edgewood Crossing plan did not include a traffic study. Mr. Stainthorpe had said at the BOS meeting that there was no need for a study because the project is not very big, and that there will be a traffic study done when they build Flowers Field. Mrs. Torbert suggested that when Flowers Field comes before the BOS for plan approval, LMT's Traffic Engineers attend the meeting. TPD has written three or four review letters, but Mrs. Torbert thinks it is important that the traffic engineer be available to provide information to the Board and answer questions when the decisions are made. This topic will be on the agenda for the next CTC meeting; in the meantime, Mrs. Herman suggested that Mrs. Torbert talk to CTC Supervisor Liaison, Mr. Caiola.
- Scudder Falls Improvement Project – The Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission approved a bike/pedestrian path, 10-12' wide, and connecting the two canal towpaths in PA and NJ.

With no further business to discuss, the May 17, 2010 meeting of the LMT Citizens Traffic Commission was adjourned at 10:10PM. The next meeting of the CTC will be held on June 21, 2010, at the LMT municipal building at 7:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Bray, Recording Secretary