

Lower Makefield Township
June 16, 2014
Citizen Traffic Commission
Meeting Minutes

Present: Virginia Torbert, Chairperson Craig Hyman
Arthur Cohn, Vice Chairperson Kristin Tyler, Supervisor Liaison
Richard Davino Scott Weaner
Susan Herman

Also in attendance was Jeff Benedetto, LMT Supervisor

Absent: William Hogan

Mrs. Torbert called the June 16, 2014 meeting of the Citizens Traffic Commission to order at 7:30PM. She announced that Mr. Hyman will be leaving the CTC to take a job in North Carolina. She expressed appreciation for his help and wished him well.

The first order of business was a discussion of concerns raised by a resident, on Facebook, about 25 mph speed limit signs that were installed on her street, Lehigh Drive. Over the past year, the CTC had relayed to the LMT Police Department concerns which a Temple Drive resident had brought to the CTC twice, about speeding and cut-through traffic on his street. Unbeknownst to the CTC, when signs were installed on Temple, other signs were installed in the Sandy Run neighborhood, including Lehigh Drive. The Lehigh Drive resident felt that the signs were unsightly and that the neighbors should have been notified before the signs were installed.

Mr. Benedetto reported that he was in attendance at the CTC meeting because of conversations he had with the resident, who wanted to attend the meeting and was not able to. He told her he would try to get some answers as to why the signs were installed on Lehigh, and not just Temple Drive. He said he had expressed to the resident that, though he disagreed that the signs were unsightly, he did believe that the Township could have sent letters informing the neighbors that the signs were going to be posted, as a courtesy. There was lengthy discussion of that issue. In the end, CTC members felt that since speed limit signs are regulatory and placed in the Right-of-Way, it would not be advisable to set the precedent of advising residents through a letter from the Township.

Mrs. Torbert suggested that prior notification is appropriate in cases of traffic calming measures under consideration, as per the recently approved CTC Traffic Calming Guidelines. She suggested that Mr. Benedetto take up the matter of notification regarding speed limit signs with the Township or the LMT Police Department, whose responsibility this would be, rather than the CTC's. Mr. Benedetto concurred.

Traffic Calming Guidelines Presentation to BOS – Mrs. Torbert reported that the presentation to the Board of Supervisors went well, and the Board of Supervisors approved the use of the

Guidelines. Mrs. Torbert distributed a draft Introduction to the Guidelines. Some revisions were suggested, and agreed upon, including a link to Frequently Asked Questions. It was agreed that Mrs. Torbert would submit the Introduction to the Township Manager for posting on the Township website, along with links to the Traffic Calming Guidelines and the Reporting Form for residents to request traffic calming. Mrs. Torbert asked all CTC members to prepare suggested FAQ's by the next meeting so they can be added to the website as well. Mrs. Tyler suggested that it would be advisable for the Introduction and links to be posted initially on the LMT home page and then on the CTC page.

Mr. Benedetto suggested that the CTC consider following Newtown's lead in identifying traffic issues on main roadways. Newtown Township is evaluating all of their main streets, with the idea of identifying six major traffic problems that have not been addressed and appropriate safety measures. He will get more information and forward it to the CTC.

Letter to Yardley Borough Re Reading Avenue/Oxford Valley Road 3 Way Stop – Mrs. Torbert asked the CTC to review a draft letter, to be sent to the Yardley Borough Manager. She will submit the letter to the Township Manager, requesting he approve it and send it out.

Crosswalk on Black Rock Road at the Canal – Several CTC members visited the site. It was agreed that, though there may be reason to worry about the danger for pedestrians and bicyclists in crossing Black Rock Road at that location, the appropriate signage is in place warning **motorists** of the upcoming intersection with the Canal towpath. There was discussion of installing signs on the Canal paths, where they intersect Black Rock, to alert **pedestrians and bicyclists** crossing there to approaching vehicles. Mr. Hyman will find out who has jurisdiction over this type of signage so the CTC will know where a request for signage should be directed.

Approve Minutes of May 19, 2014 CTC Meeting – The May 19, 2014 minutes were approved unanimously.

Other Business – It was decided that there would be no meeting in July.

With no further business to discuss, the June 16, 2014 meeting of the Citizens Traffic Commission was adjourned at 9:00PM. The next meeting of the CTC will be held on August 18, 2014, at the LMT municipal building at 7:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Torbert, Chairperson