

West Vincent Township Traffic Safety Committee

Meeting Minutes – Thursday, September 12, 2024

In attendance: Ken Alan, Whitney Jaeger, Officer Nick Rubino, Kevin Freese, Martin Blumenthal, Bernie Couris, Shaun Walfers, Shana Bahemat, Ted Otteni, Jane Nina, Dana Alan

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m. (We have a quorum.)

Thank you from Ken to Whitney for taking notes.

Approval of meeting minutes - Whitney approved, Ted seconded, all are in favor.

Officer Nick Rubino traffic report: August - No driver reportable accidents, one hit & run, no school bus accidents, two non-reportable accidents, four reportable accidents, 31 traffic details done, 19 traffic hazards called in, 23 traffic stops, four traffic studies on South Chester Springs Road 300 block 17 cars 28mph average, 296 cars average speed 28pmh. Discussion of visual traffic box. Ken asked if traffic report can be sent via email

Public Works - Kevin also performed traffic study on gravel area of St Andrews Road while PennDOT had 401 shut down. 565 cars w/an average speed 23mph.

A review of Ted's excellent presentation at BOS meeting concerning Sight Line Distances on Horseshoe Trail, cutting trees down at 2 areas: 1) The hard curve between Ivy Lane and Pine Drive 2) Horseshoe Trail and Saint Matthews Road. The trees are township obligation to maintain sight distances. Bernie mentioned he spoke with Darren Altemose with PennDOT for District 6. Can the road crew move forward via speaking with the twp manager? Bernie will bring these 2 tree cutting sections to the board to authorize the public works. Bamboo removal on Saint Matthews Road, proving sight lines are imperative.

Multimodal Plan Ken & Adrienne spoke with Brian Steich with Chester County Planning Commission, discussing Bicycles to be the focus, with committee agreement. Whitney mentioned Schuylkill Valley Trail has an all-inclusive trail system. Bike Rodeo - Adrienne contacted Laura McCloskey with Chester County Highway Safety Project, Ludwigs Corner Fire Company is interested to host this spring.

Schoolhouse Lane & Flowing Springs Road. Bernie stated that when heading north on Schoolhouse and turning west on Flowing Springs, there is zero visibility to the right, plus a one lane bridge to the left. Dan Santefonte from PennDOT was contacted. Bernie mentioned requesting all-way stop signs. Jane stated a mirror was there decades ago, until other options can be put into action, Bernie is going to ask if a mirror can be mounted. Bernie mentioned another section of Flowing Springs Road above Beaver Hill Road about Vegetation on the 90-degree bend. Checking on who removes vegetation - homeowner, PennDOT, or township? Flailmower? Darren Altemos from PennDOT at District 6 has been contacted.

Contacting state reps, Kristine Howard about paving or fixing sections of asphalt. To be put into newsletter.

New Business: Beaver Hill guardrail "cattle shoot" (initially mis-identified as Flowing Springs guardrail) - Ken explained the work truck ride, how difficult the section is for a two-way traffic. There is an old wall, if removed it may help sight line. There is a retention area close to road where water runs across road, could freeze or create asphalt disturbance. Ken mentioned the biking safe distance of 4ft sign. Discussion of common courtesy passing, how to pass when there's no room,

no shoulder, no sightline or oncoming traffic. Mention of hiker.com etiquette on how to pass. Mention of wearing bright color. Mention of people running with airpods on and with backs to traffic.

Public Comment: Shawna and Sean from 1235 South Chester Springs Road. They stated the rise coming off 401 to the top of the hill, there is a hazardous blind spot. Lots of pedestrians and the cars seem to be speeding. Discussion of traffic study, radar, officer sitting in driveway possibilities. Flashing speed limit signs will be placed and moved around. Is it possible for one speed limit of 25 mph for the whole road? PennDOT may raise speed depending on the traffic study results. The triangle yield sign & Florida Statue sign (example) about passing safely at major stop areas to help educate and incorporate the trans modal into the road courtesies. Lower speed limits are difficult. Google maps redirecting traffic to roads that really are not the fastest way, commuter traffic usually follows the most straight direct route.

Chester County Planning Commission Tuesday the 24th at 6:00 p.m.

Kirk Rheinbolt's letter read concerning Birchrun Road & Horseshoe Trail through to Birchrun Terrace, road is very narrow with shrubs and stone walls and used as a bike route. Asking to clear sight lines along this state road area.

Mark Derney from Bergamont Way, Mike Hogga and Chief are aware of the request to lower speed limit due to violations, looking for an insulation of traffic calming measures, speed humps, pedestrian cross walks, and increase signage. Ted asked about accidents, Nick answered that there have been tickets issued, and Chief, Officer Russel and Mike Hogga are working on solutions. Discussion of legitimate speed limit.

A formal thank you to all for bringing these details to this advisory committee.

Sunday Oct 13, 9am trails and conservation easement hike. Please register. 2-ish hours.

Dana mention to make certain of tree cutting motions to be emailed

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.