



The Town of Fenwick Island

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PEDESTRIAN SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

February 6, 2:30 p.m.

Town Hall

MINUTES

Members Present: Ed Bishop (Zoom), Sharon Harris (Zoom), Tim Leahy (Zoom), Natalie Magdeburger (Zoom), Chief Michael Morrissey

Other Participants: None

Staff: Pat Schuchman, Lori Dabbondanza

Call to Order and Flag Salute

1. Approval of Minutes from the December 12, 2023, meeting
On a Natalie Magdeburger/Tim Leahy motion, the minutes of the December 12, 2023, meeting were approved as submitted.

MOTION passed unanimously.

2. Rt. 1 Safety

- a. Sidewalks

Ed Bishop asked if town staff have seen the engineering firm that is supposed to be conducting our sidewalk project study. Pat indicated that she had not seen them but would invite them to attend the next meeting to provide an update on their progress with the study.

Chief Morrissey would like to see more pedestrian safety signage. He'd like to explore the option to install more pedestrian signage with DelDOT.

Sharon Harris expressed a desire for more signage for pedestrian safety.

- b. Crosswalks

Committee members addressed the issues related to the crosswalk and U-turn at Rt. 1 and Bayard. Pat indicated that the crosswalk needs to be moved to the northside of the intersection however DelDOT is not honoring our request for them to do so. A no U-turn sign was put up, but it remains a very dangerous crosswalk due to the location of the crosswalk and the lack of a median for

pedestrians. Chief Morrissey noted that we need to ask DeIDOT to realign the crosswalk and move it to the northside of the intersection. There was discussion about waiting until the sidewalk process begins, but consensus was that this issue should be addressed sooner than that project is scheduled to begin. The committee asked staff to draft a formal letter to DeIDOT and request that they realign that intersection. Ed Bishop also noted that part of our discussion with DeIDOT should be about installing a crosswalk at Lewes Street. Pat will make a list of items to discuss with DeIDOT and ask them to join our next meeting.

c. Traffic calming measures

As a traffic calming measure, Natalie Magdeburger suggested placing a blinking crosswalk light at the intersection of Rt. 1 and Bayard for the time being, or as a more permanent alternative we can discuss whether a traffic light should be installed there. She noted that the intersection at Dagsboro has a traffic light and is a good example of a traffic calming measure.

Chief Morrissey noted that we are getting approximately 2500 cars that pass through per day in each direction. He suggested using the data he's collecting to make our case to DeIDOT for a light. Pat will get in touch with DeIDOT and schedule a meeting to discuss our options further.

Natalie indicated that she would like for our ask of them to be for a traffic light.

d. Signage

Chief Morrissey suggested putting another solar-powered speed sign up towards the north end of town, near Lewes Street. After discussion, Natalie Magdeburger motioned that we schedule a meeting with DeIDOT with our main focus on installing a traffic light at Rt. 1 and Bayard intersection. She would like Chief Morrissey to get some pictures from the intersection to share with DeIDOT. Ed Bishop seconded.

MOTION passed unanimously.

3. Local Street Signage

No report.

4. ParkMobile Update

Ellie from ParkMobile joined the committee meeting to discuss the use of the ParkMobile app. Ed asked if the total amount of parking spaces available show up to the user on the app. She explained that their app is not able to track individual parking spaces that are available. Some other additional information she noted was that:

- Fenwick Island is a pay by plate town.
- ParkMobile is willing to provide the town with new parking signage.

- They offer a Ways to Pay sign which includes information on how to download the ParkMobile app or has a QR code scanner.

Ellie indicated that she would follow up with us to get the updated signs ordered. ParkMobile recommends 1 sign for every 5 parking spaces. The new signs would be provided at no cost to the town.

Ed Bishop asked about how ticket enforcement is handled and whether someone can pay in one zone and move to another zone. Ellie explained that some towns use one zone for the whole town to avoid making people pay twice. Consensus from the committee was that we're not looking to make money, we just want to make sure people are parked in designated areas and parking enforcement should be handled by plate number rather than zone number.

5. Old Business
None

6. New Business
Chief Morrissey noted that we are acquiring a speed trailer through the Community Transportation Fund. The town will own it and we will be able to position it wherever we want. He also noted that the police shifts will change during peak season and will cover the busier times. He's also talking about getting some movable speed bumps to use during the peak season as well.

Natalie Magdeburger stressed the importance of getting the word out to residents and getting moving with the median project to plant some trees. She asked if we wanted to bid the project out or go with who we know. Pat Schuchman recommended having East Coast Landscaping do the work since we are familiar with them, and they take pride in their work. Roots may be another option as well. It was agreed that this will be a town project rather than a community project to avoid the confusion of who maintains what. There was discussion about selling bricks for the median to help fund the project. After discussion, it was decided that having bricks in the median may not be a good choice for community safety. There was discussion about the use of mulch or another option that would not require a lot of maintenance. Pat Schuchman recommended Zoysia grass based on its hardiness and ease of maintenance. Tim Leahy suggested allowing residents to sponsor a tree or median in town as an option to help with the purchase of trees. There are a total of 7 medians in town.

Ed Bishop noted that he will get in touch with East Coast and give them an estimate of what we need for the project and get a cost estimate from them.

7. Public Participation
None

8. Next Meeting
March 12 @ 2 p.m.
Natalie Magdeburger asked for an excused absence.
9. Adjourn
Natalie moved to adjourn.