

Traffic Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

8:30 a.m.

The Manor Township Traffic Commission met on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in the Manor Township Municipal Building located at 950 West Fairway Drive, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Chairman Mark Harris led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and introduced the members.

Members Present: Mark Harris, Missy Phelan and Acting Chief Kim Geyer

Members Absent: None

Visitors Present: See Sign-In Sheet

Re-Organization

Chairman – Missy Phelan nominated Mark Harris as Chairman. Acting Chief Kim Geyer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Secretary – Missy Phelan nominated Acting Chief Kim Geyer as Secretary. Mark Harris seconded and the motion carried unanimously

Previous Month Minutes – Acting Chief Kim Geyer made a motion to approve the October 26, 2023, meeting minutes as they have been submitted. Missy Phelan seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Business From The Floor - None to report.

Old Business – None to report.

New Business

Speed Survey on Fieldgate Drive –

Chairman Harris stated that Mr. Chris Ichter, of 105 Shade Tree Drive contacted the Township about his concerns regarding the perceived speed of vehicles specifically on Fieldgate Drive. The Township did conduct a traffic study in 2021 on Fieldgate Drive between Landmark and Greenhedge (South end). The average speed reported in 2021 was 24 mph north bound traffic, and 23 mph south bound traffic. The Township completed a speed survey in November 2022 between Farmstead and Hershey Mill Road. The average speed reported in 2022 was 24 mph south bound traffic, and 26 mph north bound traffic.

Mr. Ichter asked if the Township had any reaction to those results. The Traffic Commission believes the count is an accurate report of what we anticipated based on previous surveys.

Mr. Harris also explained that the report identifies that 85 percent of all vehicles travel less than 31 mph. In the entire survey 4 vehicles were reported in the range of 46 to 50 mph.

Ms. Phelan stated that she did go and sit a day for about an hour to observe how many people came through and see anybody would run through the stop sign. Ms. Phelan did not observe that anyone was speeding, she did see one person roll through a stop sign.

Acting Chief Geyer also stated that she did have Officers specifically patrol the area for speed and stop violations. A few citations were issued for stop violations.

Mr. Strohecker asked about crash data. Acting Chief Geyer stated that she searched in their reporting system for the last three years and could not find any reportable crashes that took place.

Mr. Ichter asked in general are there no concerns about these cars that are going in excess of the speed limit, cars that are going 55 miles an hour.

Mr. Ichter stated we are in a neighborhood; we should be anticipating cars going 25 miles per hour. There have been cars going double that speed. All the residents want in the development are stop signs. The residents have even offered to help pay for the cost of them.

Ms. Phelan commented that are people are saying that drivers are driving 75 miles per hour through your development, if there is a stop sign there the resident is probably not going to "stop". It might become more a safety issue for that child because they will assume the vehicle is going to stop when in reality they will "roll through it".

Mr. Strohecker commented that Mr. Ichter argument is focused on outlying situation, he is saying that people are speeding through there. Mr. Strohecker is stating that the data does not reflect that.

Mr. Harris stated that Mr. Ichter is focusing on six vehicles in the entire survey that included over 8 thousand vehicles. Mr. Harris stated that when we get the data, it is the Traffic Commissions duty to follow the data that we have. This is the data that was compiled at the location requested.

Mr. Ichter feels that every suggestion he gives he is being pushed away. Mr. Strohecker is encouraging our Police Department to do more detail at that development.

Mr. Harris commented that he looked into the installation of additional stop signs. Mr. Harris went into the Manual Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) which regulates the placement of signs, unfortunately for our discussion the law does not allow municipalities to use a Stop intersection as a way to control speed.

Mr. Ichter asked where we are with the possibility of installing a digital speed sign.

Mr. Harris commented that the Township would consider this. Mr. Ichter stated that his community would be willing to help assist with payment of the sign. Mr. Harris stated that he can do some research with vendors about the digital sign.

Mr. Ichter stated that he can go back to his community and let them know they aren't getting their Stop Signs but receiving the digital signs.

Mr. Harris stated that the Traffic Committee will look into a Digital Read Out sign for in this development.

Mr. Ichter asked if he has a commitment of the Township looking into the digital sign.

Mr. Harris stated that Mr. Ichter has a commitment from the Traffic Commission that Mr. Harris will look into it and find out the cost of the digital sign. Then the Traffic Committee and Mr. Ichter will have to have a conversation about how they are willing to step up and support this.

Mr. Ichter stated that the residents in his community will supply the funds for the entire cost of the digital sign.

Mr. Strohecker commented that there will be a cost to electrify them. Mr. Harris stated that he has seen some versions that are solar.

Ms. Phelan commented there are signs you put in your yard with the child on it saying, "Slow down as if your children lived here."

Mr. Ichter stated that he can go back to the residents and let them know that we have nothing else but here is what the Traffic Committee is willing to do.

Mr. Strohecker stated that as soon as the commitment has been made, the possibility of putting up the digital read outs, that communication needs to go back to the community of Parkfield that we will not put them up immediately. This will be a step-by-step methodical process. Mr. Strohecker stated that there is a process that needs to be utilized and to discourage any email correspondence. The emails communication falls apart. Mr. Strohecker is suggesting if there is continued questions, this is the meeting to discuss.

Mr. Harris stated that the implementation of installing the devices might be challenging. There are numerous questions relating to the devices that Mr. Harris does not know. The light poles are owned by PPL. There are logistics that need to be planned out before this can occur.

Mr. Strohecker stated that after all the research has been done we have to talk about the financial mechanism.

Mr. Ichter stated that the community writes a check.

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Harris entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Acting Chief Geyer so motioned. Missy Phelan seconded and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Acting Chief Kim Geyer
Secretary

Recording Secretary
Adrienne Kautz