

Traffic Commission Meeting
January 16, 2014

Meeting was held at the Tufts Administrative Building, 167 Holland St, 2nd floor

Meeting was called to order at 6pm

Attendance: James Polito, Thomas Graney, Stan Koty, Robert McWatters

Staff: Laura Accaputo, Suzanne Rinfret, Terence Smith

Minutes from December 19, 2013 Traffic Commission Meeting accepted unanimously

Item #2 – Request for Handicapped Parking

27 Berkeley St

11 Putnam St

A motion was made by Robert McWatters to split the item, seconded by Thomas Graney. Motion passed: 4-0.

27 Berkeley St

- Terence Smith stated the application meets criteria and T&P has no objections.

Motion to Approve made by Robert McWatters, seconded by Thomas Graney. Motion passed: 4-0.

11 Putnam St

- Terence Smith asked the Chair to go into Executive Session to discuss this request.

A motion was made by James Polito to go into Executive Session at 6:10pm, seconded by Stan Koty. A role call vote was taken: James Polito answered yes; Thomas Graney answered yes; Robert McWatters answered yes; Stan Koty answered yes. Motion passed 4-0. The January 16, 2014 Traffic Commission Meeting went into Executive Session at 6:10pm.

A motion was made by Robert McWatters to end the Executive Session at 6:15pm, seconded by James Polito. A role call vote was taken: Robert McWatters answered yes; James Polito answered yes; Stan Koty answered yes; Thomas Graney answered yes. Motion passed 4-0. The Executive Session of the January 16, 2014 Traffic Commission Meeting ended at 6:15pm.

A motion was made by James Polito to Approve for a 90 day trial period, pending receipt of letter from M.D., seconded by Thomas Graney. Motion passed: 4-0.

Item #3 – Request for Drop Off/Pick Up, School Zone, 7am-8am and 2:30pm-3:00pm, Monday-Friday, September-June on Cross St at the Edgerly School replacing the existing

restriction No Parking School, 7am-3pm, Monday-Friday, September-June. Revert to Residential Permit Parking during non restrictive periods.

- Suzanne Rinfret explained this request came as the result of concerns for the safety of children currently being dropped off at Everett Av and crossing the street in an area without a crosswalk or a crossing guard. She explained the proposed location is currently restricted as a bus stop and is not being used.
- The Chair expressed his concern for safety and James Polito stated this is the best option for safety in this area.

A motion was made by James Polito to Approve for a 90 day trial period, seconded by Robert McWatters. Motion passed: 4-0.

Item #4 – Request for Drop Off/Pick Up, School Zone, 7am-8am and 2:30pm-3:00pm, Monday-Friday, September-June on Morrison Av between Willow Av and Josephine Av currently restricted for Residential Permit Parking. Revert back to Residential Permit Parking during non restrictive periods.

- Suzanne Rinfret explained this was an initiative of Safe Routes to School and Shape Up Somerville to help alleviate the gridlock at the Brown School while providing a safe route to walk to school.
- The Chair was not convinced the concept would work and Ms. Rinfret agreed it would have to be a collaborative effort with the school getting the information out to parents.

A motion was made by James Polito to Approve for a 90 day trial period, seconded by Stan Koty. Motion passed: 4-0.

Item #5 – Request for No Parking along the south side of Medford St from Prospect Hill to Washington St beginning on 1/1/14 through 6/30/14 for the McCarthy Overpass Construction Project (previously approved through 12/31/13).

A motion to Approve as requested was made by James Polito, seconded by Stan Koty. Motion passed: 4-0.

Item #6 – Request for No Parking Any Time on Medford St, left side, from Washington St to Somerville Av beginning on 1/1/14 through 6/30/14 for the McCarthy Overpass Construction Project (previously approved through 12-31-13)

A motion to Approve as requested was made by James Polito, seconded by Stan Koty. Motion passed: 4-0.

Item #7 – Prior Business

1. 15 Minute Parking at 514 Medford St; approved for 90 day trial period in September 2013.

2. No Parking on Cedar St at Franey Rd, first two spaces, approved for a 90 day trial period in September 2013.

- Terence Smith stated both items were approved for a 90 day trial period. There have been no complaints and the Alderman supports permanent approval.

A motion to Approve (both) permanently was made by James Polito, seconded by Robert McWatters. Motion passed: 4-0.

Item #8 – Informational Item regarding Kidder Av

- Terence Smith explained on August 6, 2013 Traffic and Parking forwarded a Speed Zone Study to MassDOT requesting to reduce the prima facia 30mph speed limit on Kidder Av between College Av and Willow Av to a posted speed limit of 25mph. MassDOT has informed Traffic and Parking that in order to review such a request on Kidder Av it must include the entire length of Kidder Av from College Av to Boston Av. As such additional radar speed observations are required.
- James Polito confirmed the SPD has been getting the additional speed data required which is 90% complete at this point.
- The Chair directed Terence Smith to send a letter to Mr. Clemons updating him of these new requirements. Mr. Smith stated he would inform the Ward 6 Alderman as well.

A motion to adjourn the January 16, 2014 Traffic Commission Meeting at 6:35 was made by James Polito, seconded by Thomas Graney. Motion passed: 4-0.