

Traffic Commission Meeting
February 16, 2012

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

Meeting was called to order @ 6pm by Stan Koty

Attendance: George Manzelli, William Roche, Thomas Graney, James Polito, Stan Koty

Staff: Laura Accaputo, Suzanne Rinfret, Terence Smith, Matthew Dias

Other: Alderman Thomas Taylor, Alderman William White, Alderman Dennis Sullivan

A motion was made by Roche to suspend the rules and go to Item 5a, 2nd Manzelli, unanimous

Item #5 – Prior Business:

- a) Review Handicapped Parking Space at 45 Berkeley St (approved for a 90 day trial period October 2011, extended for an additional 30 days in January 2012)

Alderman Taylor asked that the Commission extend the trial so that he can assist applicant with application and required paperwork. Roche made a motion to extend for an additional 30 days, 2nd Koty, unanimous

Item #1 – Minutes from January 19, 2012 Traffic Commission Meeting accepted unanimously

Item #2 – Request for Renewal of existing Handicapped Parking Spaces:

- 18 Adams St, 31 Adrian St, 37 Adrian St, 110 Albion St, 29 Alston St,
- 2 Bartlett St, 15 Bartlett St, 55 Bonair St, 129 Boston Av, 15 Brastow Av, 764 Broadway, 53 Bromfield Rd,
- 141 Capen St, 3 Chester Av, 201 College Av, 19 Concord Av,
- 28 Dana St, 44 Dana St, 6 Delaware St, 9 Dell St, 13 Dell St,
- 8 Edgar Ct,
- 14 Farragut Av, 33 Farragut Av, 41 Fenwick St,
- 50 Hanson St, 49 Heath St, 57 Heath St, 85 Hudson St,
- 7 Jay St,
- 35 Knowlton St, 21 Knapp St,
- 23 Lincoln St, 18 Lowell St, 186 Lowell St,
- 5 Madison St, 490 Medford St, 12 Miner St, 72 Moreland St, 15 Minnesota Av, 33 Minnesota Av,
- 3 Oxford St,
- 57 Packard Av, 72 Pearson Rd, 21A Putnam St,
- 3 Quincy St, 16 Rossmore St,
- 104 School St, 217 Summer St,
- 6 Trull St, 19 Taylor St, 7 Tennyson St, 53 Trull St,
- 68 Wallace St, 16 Watson St, 61 Webster St, 23 Wesley St.

Motion to **Approve** made by Roche, 2nd Polito, unanimous

Item #3 – Request for Handicapped Parking:

84 Bartlett St

Traffic Engineer stated that property has a driveway and applicant appears to be a relative of property owner. Traffic and Parking recommend denial.

Motion to **Deny** made by Manzelli, 2nd Graney, unanimous

Item #4 – Request to consider amending the city’s traffic regulations to prohibit bicycle riding in business districts and in the areas of the city’s senior buildings.

Alderman White asked that this item be amended to read “Request to consider amending the city’s traffic regulations to prohibit bicycle riding **on sidewalks** in business districts and in the areas of city’s senior buildings” which was approved unanimously.

Koty referenced Article XIII Section 13-5 “Bicycle Regulations; Operation prohibited on Certain Sidewalks” of the Traffic Regulations and questioned why this request was deferred to the Traffic Commission if this Article was adopted by the Board of Alderman. He asked if the problem was with enforcement of the regulation.

Alderman White explained that enforcement was part of the problem but also noted that this section only prohibits bicycle riding on sidewalks in business districts and would like it broadened to include sidewalks near senior buildings.

Roche asked that since most senior buildings are in residential areas, what about children? Would enforcement be of adult riders only? He stated that he did not want small children being forced to ride on the street. He also asked how citations will be written and noted that you do not need to have a license or identification on you to ride a bike.

Polito noted that the RMV is in the process of setting up to receive uniform traffic violations for this offense and once complete the SPD will be ready to go. He also noted that community police officers would be best to respond but since they are on bicycles would they also be prohibited?

Alderman Sullivan added that seniors’ trying to get out of the way of bicycles is a tragedy waiting to happen and he feels that more signage prohibiting bicycle riding would be helpful. He also recommended asking the School Department to help educate children on riding safely.

Traffic Engineer responded that Traffic and Parking is planning on installing an additional 6 to 12 signs prohibiting bike riding in the Union Square area.

Koty asked Alderman White to consider going to the Bike Committee before the Traffic Commission makes their decision.

Alderman Roche made a motion to refer the item to the Bike Committee and have them report back to the Traffic Commission, 2nd Graney, unanimous

Item #5 – Prior Business:

- b) Review Loading Zone at 1141 Broadway (approved for a 90 day trial period July 2011, extended for an additional 90 days in November 2011)

Traffic Engineer stated that Traffic and Parking received one letter asking that this loading zone be removed. He also stated that the Ward Alderman is in favor of keeping the loading zone.

A motion was made to **Approve** (permanently) by Roche, 2nd Koty, unanimous

Motion to adjourn at 6:25pm was made by Koty, 2nd Roche, unanimous