

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday September 9, 2008

ATTENDEES:

Bill Pritchard, Chair
Catherine Cecere
Scott DeCain
Andy Freimuth
Sue Hill
Larry Lannom
Michael Lebowitz
Susan Milner Reynolds
Arthur Schatzkin
Al Lang, Council Liaison

Absent: John Barnes, Monique Shimm, Don Sherk

Guests:

Rose Miller 7000 Valley Place
Steve Kieble 4414 Walsh St

The meeting was called to order at 8:00pm.

Open public comment:

Rose Miller complimented the CCES principal and staff on the implementation of the traffic plans around CCES but expressed her concerns about three areas:

- (1) NO STOPPING at the south end of Hillcrest: cars park there and parents drop children off even when the drop-off lane is open
- (2) Positioning and assignment of police: focus is on the DO NOT ENTER restriction at Hillcrest.
- (3) Design of the crosswalk at Valley Place and Beechwood: rationale and benefits of perpendicular to the street vs. diagonal across the curve.

Ms. Miller also is concerned about water drainage on the alley paralleling Valley Place.

The minutes of the July 8, 2008 meeting were approved.

The members of the committee were introduced. The Chair distributed information on Town policies related to the PSC, past traffic study results, the STS traffic study and the recommendations of the previous Traffic Committee.

Brief Updates:

Leland Center playground equipment:

Susan Milner reports that the Town approved expenditure of \$30,000. An MOU has been signed between the Town and the MNPPC, who is increasing their contribution over the original budget.

Sidewalks:

The sidewalks along Oakridge and Thornapple have been completed. Widening of Oakridge at the south end of the block is being considered to allow two-sided parking in front of two houses.

Chevy Chase Elementary School (CCES) Traffic Plan:

The CCES traffic plan has been implemented including erection of new signs and modification of the roadway along Hillcrest, even though the changes were only approved at the August meeting of the Town Council. The Town and PSC will evaluate the effectiveness of the changes and need for modification.

Committee Organization

The PSC reviewed the mission statement and agreed to establish 6 subcommittees that would include the following objectives:

Traffic

- a) Assessing CCES
- b) Widening Oakridge
- c) Leland Center cut-through traffic
- d) Traffic intersections: Leland and 46th; Oakridge and Leland; and Leland/Oakridge/Maple
- e) Sidewalks, to include evaluating permeable surfaces
- f) Traffic studies: traffic patterns and access to Connecticut from Thornapple Street

Security

- a) Police services options -- what services are needed, e.g., speed cameras
- b) Police services options -- how can they be structured
- c) Police services options – budget options
- d) Police services options – prioritization, recommendations

Parks

- a) Elm Street Park – recommendations for improving the park,
- b) Li Property Options – park, swimming pool, dog park, etc.
- c) Others: Zimmerman

Power/Electricity

- a) Review the electrical distribution within the Town
- b) Define the status of past efforts with PEPCO and follow-up
- c) Define the areas that are vulnerable to losing electricity, together with the potential causes
- d) Develop recommendations

Water Run-Off

- a) Assess the state of the County's efforts, where are they in the 3-phased project
- b) Assess the Town problems, working first with the County using the previous outreach and followed by contacting Town residents
- c) Define private versus public issues, e.g., any areas that have not been corrected that were not identified in the County's original study

d) Propose water runoff options, to include state, e.g., storm drains on Connecticut or County improvements, e.g., storm drains in the Town

Communications

- a) Assure that the agenda is posted 7 days prior to the meeting
- b) Assure that the minutes are posted within 7 days following the meeting
- c) Keep web site current. For example, posting engineering diagrams during development of projects, e.g., sidewalks on Oakridge
- d) Reach out to residents across for their input and to provide them information

The committee structure, assignments, lead priorities and milestones will be established at the next meeting.

Meetings will typically occur on the Tuesday preceding the Wednesday meetings of the Town Council.

The next meeting will be in October.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30.