

# VERONA

*Township of Verona, New Jersey*



## NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES November 7, 2018

### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Chairman Santi Condorelli in the Conference Room at the Verona Community Center, 880 Bloomfield Ave.

### ROLL CALL

Santi Condorelli, Mary Cooksey-Wilks, Gerard Shimonaski, Louis Koenig, Susan DeWitt, Officer Christopher Scheper representing Chief Christopher Kiernan, and Councilman Jack McEvoy were present. John Gasiewski, Matthew Cavallo, Nicole Quick, Robert Rowbotham and Superintendent Rui Dionisio were absent.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the August 29, 2018 meeting were approved. Motion Jerry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Louis, all in favor.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Discussion

- Discussion of new development in Cedar Grove - 466 homes, Traffic will go out to either Fairview or Grove. (See attached map). Can builder be encouraged to assist in paying for a traffic light at Sampson and Fairview. Jack to follow up
- Discussion about traffic at Sampson & Fairview, Very congested and confusing with people making left out of Sampson and people making right turns out of VHS driveway. Question was asked could Sampson be made one way going east instead of west. Consensus was to ask VPD traffic officer to look at area and come up with temporary solutions until we get a traffic light sometime in the future.
- Will increased police patrols aid in traffic safety? Suggestion was made that all uniform officers of any rank patrol the areas of the schools during drop off and pick up. The presence of police will hopefully slow people down.

- Some places park “dummy” cars on roadways to deter violators. Increased presence could slow people down.
- Discussion about school drop offs and pickups. Suggestion made to ask Rui to have email sent out to parents suggesting where they should park during these times. Suggestions should be away from the immediate area of the school and have children walk utilizing the school guards that are by each school.
- Suggestion was made to educate the children about traffic safety., possibly once a week with a new safety tip. Kids are good at relaying “rules” to parents. Suggestion to meet with principals to come up with safety tips.
- Helmet safety – see many kids riding bikes to school with no helmets. Are there any rules from the schools that kids need to have helmets? Check with Officer Martin to see if helmet safety is covered when doing classes in the schools.
- Discussed Safety programs forwarded from Jr. Woman’s club.
  - Safety Town – this is covered in summer recreation programs during “Safety Mondays and also in the kindergarten classes.
  - Blinking Signage – we utilize this.
  - NJ Safe routes to School – we participate in this program.
  - Pedestrian Safety Programs – we participate in this
  - Vision Zero – we monitor this
- Would more signs help? – Discussion seemed to indicate that we have “Sign pollution”.
- Could we put rumble strips on Fairview Ave near high school as there are no residents in the immediate area.
- Suggestion was made to send minutes to Jr. Women’s club so they are aware of the programs we participate in.
- Suggestion was made to pick one school/area of town to concentrate on at each meeting. For next meeting we will concentrate on Lanning Ave School and surrounding area. Everyone is encouraged to visit area before next meeting to become familiar with area.
- Morningside and Forest question was asked about the hedges at the corner which obstruct the view. Can anything be done with them from a town stand point. Is there an ordinance which would cover this? Check with Building Department.
- Would like to ask Rui if we can have the next meeting at Laning Ave School at 4 PM and if the school principals could attend to give us their concerns about each school.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM. The next meeting will be Thursday January 10, 2019. Time will be either 4 PM at Laning Avenue School or 7:30 PM at the Verona Community Center Will advise of exact time and location once a determination has been made.

Respectfully Submitted

Susan DeWitt  
Secretary