

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING  
HELD: MARCH 16, 2017 AT 10:00 A.M.  
HENRY HOOVER COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL**

**Voted to accept the minutes of the February meeting.**

**1. PETITIONED ITEMS:**

**A. Watch City Steampunk Festival 2017**

Mr. Bob Perry is requesting street closures and parking for this event on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Voted to approve closing Carter Street on Saturday May 13, 2017 from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Volunteers and vendors must ONLY park on the upper level of the Central Square Parking Deck or the Carter Street lot with an approved placard.**

**B. #185 Willow Street – Special Permit**

Attorney Bret Francis presented the traffic study for this project and stated the proposed residential development on Willow Street is for nine condominiums to be constructed at #185 Willow Street, which is located north of Parkers Lane and south of School Ave. The Traffic Impact Analysis indicated the project will generate four vehicle trips in the AM peak hour and five vehicle trips in the PM peak hour. This will have minimal impact on traffic operations.

**Voted to accept the Transportation Impact Assessment from Parson Brinckerhoff and forward it to the City Council for their deliberations on the issuance of a Special Permit.**

**C. #200 Smith Street – Proposed Pedestrian Crosswalks and Street markings**

Mr. Paul Finger is requesting crosswalk and street markings as part of their project. At the request of Mayor McCarthy and Ward Councillor Darcy, two new crosswalks are proposed for 200 Smith Street (the former Post Office building). The sight distance and lighting is adequate and the developer will fund construction of ramps, crosswalk and signage.

**Voted to approve the installation of two new crosswalks, crossing Smith Street – just south of the northerly driveway for 200 Smith St. and just north of the southerly driveway for 200 Smith Street.**

**D. #81 Wyman Street – Site Plan Update**

Mr. Kevin Casey with Hobbs Brook Management discussed the updates. The plan, which has been endorsed by Councillor Fowler, will add a connecting internal road from #175 Wyman Street to #81 Wyman Street. This will allow employees of #81 Wyman Street to utilize the traffic signal at the bottom of #175 Wyman Street to turn onto either Wyman Street or I-95 northbound on ramp.

**INFORMATION ONLY.**

**E. MBTA Bus Stops**

MassDOT is requesting our thoughts on the list of bus stops they evaluated. Councillors Romard and Waddick have submitted letters objecting to the removal of any stops within the City.

**1: #300 Bear Hill Road**

This stop is on the southbound side of Bear Hill Rd. for Bus #170. There is no sidewalk and the stop is on a steep incline. The nearest alternative stop is located at #293 Second Ave, about 900 feet away with a full sidewalk and is relatively level. **Voted to recommend removal of this stop.**

**2: Beaver St. @ Valley View Rd.**

The nearest alternative stop are at either #130 Lexington Street (4,000 feet away) or Beaver & Forest Sts. (1,700 feet away) Since the distances to the next nearest stops are

very long, and the City may be constructing a sidewalk, the Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin recommended to keep this stop. **Voted to retain this stop.**

3: **Waverley Oaks Rd. opp Parkview Rd.**

The location of this stop is inappropriate. It is located along a section of Waverley Oaks Road that has no sidewalk and a guard rail making pedestrian travel impossible. Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin, recommended relocating the stop to the opposite side of the plaza driveway, which (although there is no sidewalk, seems to provide better space for pedestrians to wait for or exit a bus. **Voted to accept this recommendation.**

4: **#380 Trapelo Rd.**

This stop is located directly in front of the National Archives. It is not frequently used and there is no sidewalk. The nearest alternative stop is 1,100 feet away. However, it is an attraction used by groups to visit the site and should be retained. **Voted to recommend the stop be retained.**

5: **Warren St. @ Brookline St.**

This stop is located at the Waltham/Watertown line. The nearest stop is 700 feet away. There is a sidewalk on one side. This area is densely populated and the stop should remain in this area. **Voted to recommend the stop either be retained or be relocated, to an appropriate spot in Watertown.**

6: **Forest St. @ Beaver St.**

There is no sidewalk and the nearest stop is 400 feet away. Removal of this stop would cause minimal inconvenience. **Voted to recommend removal of this bus stop.**

7: **Trapelo Rd. opp Berkley St.**

Presently there are no sidewalks. The City will be improving the accessibility at this stop and it should be retained. **Voted to recommend this stop not be removed.**

8: **Lincoln St. opp Graymore Rd.**

The next nearest stop is 600 feet away and has no sidewalk. The stop is located on a level section of grass. **Voted to recommend this stop be retained.**

**F. Waltham Public Schools – Sign Regulations**

School Superintendent Drew Echelson, Ed.D, is requesting signage be included in our regulations for the High School and Kennedy Middle School. **Voted the following:**

1: **Posted Speed Limit on Jack's Way**

A speed study must be conducted to post a Speed Limit. A determination will be made if this qualifies for a "Safety Zone" (20 MPH).

2: **Speed Limit in front of Kennedy**

Since the school services student's grade 8 or lower, 20 MPH School Zone signs will be erected.

3: **No Parking along Jack's Way**

The Traffic Commission approved and voted to add to Schedule 1-No Parking the following:

**Add to Schedule 1 Parking**

Jack's Way south side, Lexington Street to a point 1300 feet east No Parking

**4: No Parking on Access Road**

Voted to prohibit parking on the Access Road as follows;

**Add to Schedule 1 Parking**

**High School Access Road – south side from end of Woodcliff Drive to Jack's Way-  
No Parking**

**G. Fitzgerald Fun Run**

Ms. Christine Young is requesting permission for this event on Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Lt. Cavallaro reported no streets will be closed and there will be Police presence. It is expected to have 150 participants. **Voted to recommend to the Mayor, a permit be issued.**

**H. Health Innovations/Project Health MOVES**

Ms. Catherine O'Connor is requesting 6 parking spaces in front of #16 Felton St. on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Two medical vans will be set up to reach out to individuals who may be at risk for HIV, STD and viral hepatitis infections, as well as users who may be at risk for overdose, the homeless and those with mental issues. **Voted to approve this request.**

**J. Employee Parking Placard for Health Dept.**

Mr. John Zuppe with the Health Dept. is requesting an Employee Parking Placard for Ms. Meaghan Ritcey. **Voted to approve and issue a parking placard for Meaghan Ritcey.**

**2. TABLED ITEMS:**

- A. Highland St. "Spur" at Curtis St. – Removal of "No Right Turn" Restriction (9/12)(10/12)(5/16)(6/16)
- B. Main Street at Warren Street – Proposed Pedestrian Signal (10/13)
- C. Valet Parking in Downtown Area (11/15)
- D. Forest Street – Crosswalks and Bicycle Markings (11/15)(5/16)
- E. Amend Art. 5, Sec. 18 GVW (3/16)
- F. Parking Near Driveways (4/16)
- G. Massasoit Street – Proposed Truck Restriction (9/16)

**Voted to remove Item H from the Table.**

**H. Winter St. & Wyman St. area – Traffic Improvements (9/16)**

Ms. Masiar, representing the 128 Business Council stated that employees in this area would have a hardship to attend an evening meeting. She suggested a morning meeting would be more receptive. The Commission agreed to hold the 10AM meeting to discuss this item.

**Voted to hold a Special Meeting on Wednesday April 26, 2017 10:00 AM at Government Center**

- I. Whittemore Elementary School – Student Drop-off and Pick-up (9/16)
- J. Grove Street – Speed Study (12/16)

**Voted to remove item K from the table**

**K. John, Moore, Oak, Flood & Friend Sts. – Parking Issues (12/16)**

(Note: Member Mr. Magno recused himself from deliberations)

Mayor McCarthy spoke and summarized the steps taken so far concerning this issue. At a second neighborhood meeting, the area residents still favored a "Resident Parking Sticker Program". Both Mayor McCarthy and Councillor Logan spoke of "quality of life" issues. Many residents had issues

relative to trash, noise, blocking driveways, engines left running, and rude vulgar language. Mr. Steve Frank, representing Veteran's stated the situation has been overstated and any removal of on street parking is not warranted. Mr. Frank was asked how many spaces he needed and how many spaces he has. He was unable to answer that question. Member Mr. Kelly, at the last meeting suggested to add parking on the south side of Calvary Street. (along the cemetery). Member Mr. Chiasson expressed concerns about narrowing the street; many trucks use this street and there will be some blocking, gridlock. Members felt this situation would not improve or be corrected without restriction in place.

**Voted (4-0) to initiate steps for a "pilot" Residential Sticker Parking Program. The area to be covered would be Flood Street all hours; Friend Street all hours; John Street all hours; Moore Street all hours; Oak Street from Moore Street to Cedar Street all hours; Cedar Street from Oak Street to Calvary Street all hours; Calvary Street from Cedar Street to Flood Street 5PM to 6AM only. The trial period is to commence when the sticker program is in place (possibly September/October 2017) for a period of 90 days when it will be reviewed. As part of the pilot program, the daytime parking restriction on Flood Street and Friend Streets were removed.**

**In addition, a 90 day trial period on Calvary Street from Flood Street to Farwell Street, south side to remove the No Parking restriction.**

L. Elson Rd. at Prentice St. – Traffic Study (12/16)

### **3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

A. Parking Meter Report – total YTD receipts similar to last year

B. Main St. and Moody St. Sidewalk Project – Update

Mayor McCarthy will conduct a sign inventory on Main Street and Moody Street, and will make recommendations for signage to be approved by Traffic Commission.

C. Winthrop St. at Fiske Ave. – new STOP sign

Due to the volume of vehicles on Fiske Avenue a Stop Sign should be installed on Winthrop Street. **Voted to approve this request as follows:**

Add to Schedule 11 Stop Signs

Winthrop Street at Fiske Avenue, facing westbound traffic

D. FY18 Proposed Budget – **Voted to approve the proposed budget as requested by the Traffic Engineer. Traffic Engineering's request is approximately a 5% increase, and Parking Management about a 6% increase over FY2017. Member Tom Magno was not present during this voting.**

### **AND ANY LATE FILED ITEM(S) THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION.**

**Attendance: All member except Mr. Malone & Ms. Cagle. Mayor McCarthy, Councillors Logan and Fowler. Mr. John Pinzone, Mr. Bob Perry, Ms. Heather McKenzie, Attorney Bret Francis, Ms. Sushima Souininas, Attorney Jack Mula, Mr. Paul Finger, Ms. Lauren Masiar, and several residents from the John Street, Calvary Street area.**

**Adjourned @ 12:09 PM**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Frank S. Lombardo, Clerk**

**off Committee Speakers**

**Waltham Traffic Commission**

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**Date of the Meeting: March 16, 2017**

**Please Print**

<b>Name of Speaker</b>	<b>Address # Street, City</b>	<b>Item of Interest</b>	<b>Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Interested party – Traffic Engineer Petitioner</b>
<b>Bob Perry</b>	<b>61 Clarke Ln</b>	<b>Steampunk Festival</b>	<b>Lead Organizer</b>
<b>Heather MacKenzie</b>	<b>1141 Main St. Randolph, MA</b>	<b>Health Van Parking</b>	<b>Health Innovations</b>
<b>Jeannette Bowlby</b>	<b>6 John St</b>	<b>Parking</b>	<b>Resident</b>
<b>Jeannette A. McCarthy</b>	<b>91 Hamilton Rd Waltham</b>	<b>John – Moore – Oak Calvary - Area</b>	<b>City</b>
<b>Robert Logan</b>	<b>109 Taylor St</b>	<b>John – Moore – Oak Calvary - Area</b>	<b>City Councillor</b>
<b>Thomas Coxall</b>	<b>21 John St</b>	<b>John – Moore – Oak Calvary - Area</b>	<b>Abutter</b>
<b>Eleanor Coxall</b>	<b>21 John St</b>	<b>John – Moore – Oak Calvary - Area</b>	<b>Abutter</b>
<b>Dr. Sven Loebrich</b>	<b>20 Friend St</b>	<b>John – Moore – Oak Calvary - Area</b>	<b>Resident</b>
<b>Lisa Leon Leann Leon</b>	<b>12 Cedar St</b>	<b>John – Moore – Oak Calvary - Area</b>	<b>Resident</b>

**Committee Speakers****Waltham Traffic Commission**Page# 2 of 2**Date of the Meeting: March 16, 2017**

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<b>Jon Cristiola</b>	<b>224 Calvary St</b>	<b>John – Moore – Oak Calvary - Area</b>	<b>Veteran's - Petitioner</b>
<b>Steve Frank</b>	<b>224 Calvary St</b>	<b>John – Moore – Oak Calvary - Area</b>	<b>Veteran's - Petitioner</b>
<b>Bret Francis</b>	<b>10 Hammer St Waltham</b>	<b>185 Willow St</b>	<b>Attorney</b>
<b>Sushma Sorininas</b>	<b>75 Arlington St Boston, MA</b>	<b>185 Willow St</b>	<b>Traffic Engineer WSPI Parsons Brinkehoff</b>
<b>Gary Smith</b>	<b>36 Moore Street</b>	<b>John – Moore – Oak Calvary - Area</b>	<b>Resident</b>
<b>John Pinzone</b>	<b>Waltham High</b>	<b>Signage</b>	<b>School Dept</b>
<b>Jack Mula</b>	<b>40 Amelia Dr</b>	<b>200 Smith St</b>	<b>Attorney</b>
<b>Bill Fowler</b>	<b>54 Lincoln St</b>	<b>81 Wyman St</b>	<b>City Councillor</b>
<b>Paul Finger</b>	<b>14 Spring St</b>	<b>200 Smith St</b>	<b>Consultant</b>
<b>Sandra Thompson</b>	<b>30 Friend St</b>	<b>John – Moore – Oak Calvary - Area</b>	<b>Resident</b>
<b>Lauren Masiar</b>	<b>128 Business Council</b>	<b>Winter Wyman</b>	