

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING  
HELD: MAY 16, 2019 AT 10:00 A.M.  
HENRY HOOVER COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL**

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

**1. PETITIONED ITEMS:**

**A. Main St. at Warren St. – Proposed Crosswalk**

Mayor McCarthy request this item be on the agenda. The intersection is in need of re-design which will take some time. Mayor McCarthy and Councillor McLaughlin asked for some short term immediate solutions. The westbound mast arm at Barbara Rd. that was taken down in an accident will be replaced shortly and there is a need for signal synchronization. **Voted to table and have the Traffic Engineer consider a recommendation to move the MBTA bus stop and crosswalk further to the east on Main Street if the ADA warrants can be met.**

**B. 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Shopper's 5K**

Ms. Margaret McCullough is requesting permission to hold this event on Sunday, September 15, 2019 at 11:00 AM. The route designated is to use Woerd Avenue which will be closed to all vehicle and pedestrian traffic until December 2020. A new route is needed. **Voted to Table.**

**C. 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Waltham Overcoming Addiction Recovery 5K**

Ms. Debbie Cosgrove Moore is requesting permission to hold this event on Sunday, September 8, 2019 at 10:00 AM. The route designated is to use Woerd Avenue which will be closed to all vehicle and pedestrian traffic until December 2020. A new route is needed. **Voted to Table.**

**D. Proposed 3D Crosswalk Layout**

Member Tim Kelly requested this item be placed on the agenda. Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin recommended that such a crosswalk should only be used at Stop sign locations. At present the paint crew does not have the time needed to paint this type of crosswalk and it should be outsourced if approved. Locations would need to be selected and should be considered on individually and not a wide scale. Input from Medford Traffic Department should be investigated to see what problems if any have been reported. Also, a cost analysis should be reviewed. **Voted to deny installation at this time.**

**E. 973 Main St. – Proposed use of roadway**

JMC Driving School is requesting use of the corner at Main St./Prospect Hill Ave. for road test on Saturday or Sunday twice a month. Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin recommended this be approved. **Voted to approve this request and allow the use of cones to block off a portion of Prospect Hill Road for the student road testing.**

**F. Moody St. Temp. Closure for "Moody Street Marketplace"**

Moody St. Marketplace Working Group is looking for temporary closure of Moody St. between Crescent/Pine and Taylor Streets in October on four Saturdays from 7:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Mayor McCarthy and Councillor Harris were present to support this request. Councillor Logan, who could not attend sent a letter of support. The closing is to transform a portion of Moody Street into a pedestrian mall marketplace. A 19 foot fire lane will be maintained throughout the restricted area. Fire Chief McInnis expressed concern that this must be enforced as the width is barely enough for the fire department. The Fire Chief would like a Police Detail at both ends in case of an emergency and needs an ambulance planned in advance. The Commission requested additional input from the downtown merchants concerning their thoughts. Mr. Rudnick stated that this was being done and more signatures would be forthcoming. The MBTA must be consulted due to at

least three bus stops on Moody Street being blocked off. The consideration to have Gordon Street made two way must be reviewed, and the possibility of a tow zone on Moody Street should be considered and a look at Spruce Street with its 'loading zone' must be addressed. Chief MacPherson requested traffic data to be gathered. Also barricades and detour signage needs to be discussed. The Mayor stated that this will be a City sponsored event. **Voted to table this item and have the Traffic Engineer review and make recommendations upon his findings.**

**G. Warren Street – Traffic Safety Issues**

Councillor McLaughlin is requesting this item be placed on the agenda. Councillor McLaughlin and resident Ms. Grinnell spoke of the dramatic change in traffic volume and speed particularly during peak traffic time. She asked for consideration of RRFB for the crosswalk at Candace Ave. **Voted to have the Traffic Engineer study Warren Street from Main Street to Beaver Street and recommend any changes at a future meeting.**

**H. South Street – Proposed Crosswalk at Brandeis University**

Councillor Mackin is requesting this item be placed on the agenda. Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin recommends a study be done in September when the students return. **Voted to conduct a traffic study of the area and report back at a future meeting**

**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. Amend Art. 5, Sec. 18 GVW (3/16)(11/18)
- C. Trapelo Road at Waverley Oaks Road – Proposed Right Turn Lane (4/17)(5/17)
- D. Totten Pond Rd. at Veterans Memorial Ice Rink – Proposed Traffic Signal (2/18)(4/18)
- E. Waverley Oaks Rd. at Wilson Rd. – Proposed RRFB (6/18)(9/18)

**F. Main St. from Church/Elm St. to Newton St. – Parking spaces (9/18)(11/18)**

Mayor McCarthy opined that the evaluation of on-street parking should not include asking to use private off street parking at the Senior Center even though the Traffic Engineer's report showed there is adequate parking. The Council on Aging is adamant that they need all the parking most of the time. The four parking spaces on the north side of Main Street, (Craven Circle to Lyman Street) is one cause of the grid-lock from Newton Street (left turn onto Main St) to Lyman Street during peak hour traffic. The Mayor wants to know how many spaces can be added to Main St. along with contacting the MBTA to relocate some bus stops. **Voted to have the Traffic Engineer work with the MBTA to see if a bus stop can be moved and create some added parking west of Lyman Street**

G. Derby St. at Lowell St. – Traffic Improvements (9/18)

H. River St. at Jackson St. – Proposed RRFB (10/18)

I. Woerd Ave./Crescent St. – Study for Pedestrian Safety Improvements (12/18) Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin report the study will be done shortly

**J. Circle Dr. at Hobbs Rd. – Proposed STOP signs (4/19)**

After a review of the location, Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin agreed that additional traffic control is warranted due to the alignment of the streets at this intersection. **Voted to accept this recommendation and add Circle Dr., both directions, at Hobbs Rd. for Stop Signs.**

**Add: Schedule 11 (Stop Signs)**

**Circle Dr. at Hobbs Rd., facing northbound and southbound traffic.**

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

- A. Parking Meter Report – total receipts are down approximately \$1,000 from last year.
- B. River/Farwell/Seyon – Update – Dagle Electric is mostly completed with some updates still needed. Willow St. now has split phasing, and River/Farwell now has a flashing yellow arrow.
- C. High/Hamblin/Joyce – Update – Final comments sent to VHB to be implemented if possible.
- D. Piety Corner – Update – Mayor has a few updates that need addressed. Wires Dept. has cut off the power. The Demolition request will go out once issue are resolved at the Old North Library building.
- E. Library Lot & Carter St. Lot – Pay Stations – Traffic Engineer recommends at the Library Lot we convert the 29 parking spaces over to free parking with a two-hour maximum time limit. The two free 15 minute spaces and two HP spaces will remain. The existing Pay Station will be relocated to the Carter Street lot. The Carter St. individual parking meters will need to be surplus when this happens. **Voted to approve making Library Lot a free 2 hrs. max. time limit and to surplus Carter St. meters when we relocate Library Lot Pay Station to Carter St. Lot.**
- F. Surplus 4 Embassy Pay Stations which will be replaced with new PayBySpace machines. It was recommended that the Traffic Engineer have approval to surplus the four older Model 400 Pay & Display machines. **Voted to approve**
- G. Woerd Ave. Bridge Closing . MIG Corporation, contractor for the Woerd Avenue Bridge replacement has stated the replacement will start around May 15, 2019 and will continue until December 2020. **There will be no pedestrian or bicycle passage**
- H. Main St. and Moody St. Sign Authorization – **Update – Mayor will review once Mr. Kelly installs brackets on Moody and Main Streets.**

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

#### **4 Late Filed Items**

##### **A. Moody Street @ Orange Crosswalk**

Councillor Cathyann Harris requested increased visibility at this crosswalk. Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin reported Moody Street from Hall's Corner (Moody from Pine/Crescent to Newton Line) is scheduled for Thermoplastic striping. No further action needed at this time.

##### **B: Orange Street @ Crescent Street**

Councillor Cathyann Harris asked for improvements at this location. Formerly, a mirror had been placed on a telephone pole which aided vehicles exiting Orange Street at Crescent St. **Voted to have the Traffic Engineer study other locations along Crescent St. as well, review and make a recommendation at a future meeting.**

**Attendance: All members present. Mayor McCarthy, Councillors Harris and McLaughlin, Mr. Marc Rudnick and members of Moody Street Working Group and Waltham Farmers Market, Ms. Grinnell, and Mr. Allen.**

**Adjourned@ 12:05 PM**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Frank S. Lombardo**  
**Clerk**

off Committee Speakers

Waltham Traffic Commission

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Date of the Meeting: May 16, 2019

Please Print

Name of Speaker	Address # Street, City	Item of Interest	Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Interested party – Traffic Engineer Petitioner
Jeannette McCarthy	91 Hamilton Rd	1A -1F – 1G	Mayor of Waltham
Marc Rudnick	144 Hardy pond Rd	Moody St Marketplace	Waltham Farmers Market
Martha Creedon	731 South St	Moody St Marketplace	Waltham Farmers Market
Leo Keightley	731 South St	Moody St Marketplace	Waltham Farmers Market
Bob Marcou	5 Bancroft ST	Moody St Marketplace	Moody St Merchant
Doug Waybright	75 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue	Moody St Marketplace	
Kathleen Grinnell	127 Warren St	Warren St Traffic	Resident
John McLoughlin	42 Beal Road	Warren St Traffic	City Councillor
Lisa Lorgeree			Downtown Partnership
John S Allen	7 University Park		Waltham Bicycle Committee