

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD: FEBRUARY 18, 2016 AT 10:00 A.M.
HENRY HOOVER COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL**

The Chair accepted a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting.

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. 5th Grade Girl Scout Troop – Presentation of traffic concerns on Warren St. and Beaver St. – This Girl Scout Troop is from Fitzgerald Elementary School and they conducted a traffic study regarding cross walk safety on both Beaver St. and Warren St. as part of working on earning their Bronze Award. The troop gave a Power Point presentation demonstrating areas where they noted speeding and crosswalk violations. They cited a need for increased crosswalk lighting, trimming of trees that block signs and expressed a need for a full traffic signal at the intersection of Beaver/Warren Streets. Mayor McCarthy expressed her compliments on the excellent presentation made by the girls of this troop. Ward 4 Councilor McLaughlin also complemented the troop. Members of the Commission expressed statements for an excellent, well focused presentation. **Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin will review and seek additional lighting at crosswalks where possible. In addition, he will review previous action concerning the bushes and trees to be trimmed appropriately. The Building Department will be asked for enforcement on corner site restrictions.**

B. 48 Pine Street – Re-Instate Parking Spaces and Issuance of Medical Needs Passes. Mayor McCarthy is submitting a request signed by residents of 48 Pine St. for the return of the designated Senior Sticker Parking Spaces along with requesting the issuance of Medical Needs Passes. Mayor McCarthy with several residents attended the meeting. The request was for eight (8) spaces to be reserved at the Embassy lot for visitors or medical assistants. Almost all were unaware there had been 8 parking spaces set aside for Senior Sticker parking at the Embassy Upper Deck. A Senior Resident of Waltham (62 or older) can purchase a Senior Sticker for \$5.00/year and then can park at any legal parking space within the City. Anyone can purchase a monthly parking permit for \$35/month or an annual parking permit for a cost of \$350./year. It was suggested that the WHA (Waltham Housing Authority) could purchase annual parking permits that could be used by care-givers or medical personnel on an as needed basis; however, with no attendants located at the facility this may not be practical. The issuance of “temporary permits” by the WHA may be considered and the Commission agreed that “short term” parking could be provided. However, this does not address “visitor” parking. The complex (48 Pine Street) is not under Traffic Commission jurisdiction and any permit process must be able to easily be enforced. There are more tenants with vehicles, than there are parking spaces. This concern needs to be addressed by the WHA. **Voted to table and invite Mr. John Gollinger, Director, Waltham Housing Authority to the next meeting of the Traffic Commission for discussion.**

C. St. Jude’s 5th Annual Family 5K Road Race –

Ms. Norma Newell is requesting permission of this road race to be held on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at 9:00 AM. No streets will be closed, it is expected to have 400-600 participants and there will be Police presence. **Voted to accept Lt. Cavallaro’s findings and forwarded a recommendation to Mayor McCarthy for a permit to be issued.**

D. National Brain Tumor Society “Boston Brain Tumor Ride” -

Ms. Katie Federico is requesting permission of this ride to be held on Sunday, May 15, 2016 at 7:30 AM. No streets will be closed, it is expected to have 800 participants and there will be Police presence. **Voted to accept Lt. Cavallaro’s findings and forwarded a recommendation to Mayor McCarthy for a permit to be issued.**

2. TABLED ITEMS:

- A. Highland St. “Spur” at Curtis St. – Removal of “No Right Turn” Restriction (9/12)(10/12)
- B. Main Street at Warren Street – Proposed Pedestrian Signal (10/13)
- C. Lowell Street at Washington Avenue – Traffic Study (6/14)(9/14)(10/14)**
- D. Prentice/Plympton/Tomlin/Irving – Traffic Calming (6/15)(9/15)(11/15)(12/15)
- E. 475 Winter St. Service Rd. – Parking Improvements (9/15)**
- F. Valet Parking in Downtown Area (11/15)
- G. Trapelo Road and Forest Street – Crosswalks and Bicycle Markings (11/15)
- H. Lowell St. and Adams St. Intersections – No Parking Here To Corner (1/16)**

Voted to take items 2C, 2H and 2E off the table

2C & 2H: A review of the No Parking to Corner (NPTC) signage resulted in many locations with either missing or new signage installed along Adams Street from Spruce St to Chester Ave, and Lowell Street from Cushing Street to Wadsworth Ave. Also, it was recommended to replace 15’ mast arm with a 20’ mast arm at Lowell/High. Some additional “Stop Line” painting where needed (some to be completed after re-surfacing of Lowell Street). Building Department will be requested to notify home owners concerning corner clearances where applicable. Updated Accident History indicates some improvement. **The following locations were voted as follows:**

Add to Schedule 1 Parking Restrictions:

Adams St. east side, 51’ S. of Chestnut St. No Parking

Lowell St. west side, 64’ S of Brown St. No Parking

Lowell St. west side, 40’ N. of Wadsworth Ave. No Parking

Lowell St. west side, 45’ D. of Wadsworth Ave. No Parking

2E: 475 Winter Street - Parking

The Traffic Commission received an opinion from Ms. Michelle Learned, Law Department that to alter the existing public way identified as “the Winter Street Service Road” for perpendicular parking within the public way layout is “outside the scope of your authority to grant. The proponents should seek permission from the Mayor/City Council prior to the Commission authorizing/prohibiting parking on the Service Road. **Voted to Place on File**

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- A. Parking Meter Report . . . YTD collections are slightly higher than last year
- B. South Street at Highland Street – Update . . presently there’s a coordination problem between Highland and Bedford Street signals . . under review
- C. Transportation Master Plan – Update . . McMahon plan to include 20 major intersections
- D. Mass. Mayors Monthly Meeting Feb. 24th at the Waltham Community and Cultural Center – Free Parking **Voted to approve parking**

- E. Embassy Lot Pine Street Improvements \$450,000.
Reconstruction to include additional lighting, repaving and new pay stations. Voted to approve requesting funds.

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

4: Late Filed Items:

Trapelo Road Bicycle Lanes/Sharrows and Addition Crosswalks

Councilors Darcy and McLaughlin requested Trapelo Road have painted bicycle lanes and additional crosswalks. Some areas may accommodate a full bike lane, while others may need 'sharrows'. Crosswalks are requested at Christopher Road, Berkley Street, Kingston Road, Sherwood Lane, Circle Drive, National Archives and Briarwood Road. In addition, Mr. Guy Sergi resident of Trapelo Road submitted a letter of support for a crosswalk at Christopher Road.

Attendance: All members (Mr. Kelly left at 11:00 AM)
Mayor McCarthy, Councilors Darcy & McLaughlin; Girl Scout Troop 88190;
Ms. Theresa Youssef, J.Anne Kent, Ms. Kououmjian, Ms. Grosett, Ms. Spina

Adjourned: 11:29 AM

Frank Lombardo
Clerk

Waltham Traffic Commission

Date of the Meeting: Feb. 18, 2016

Please Print

Name of Speaker	Address # Street, City	Item of Interest	Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Interested party – Traffic Engineer Petitioner
Jeannett McCarthy	Waltham City Hall	48 Pine Street	Mayor of Waltham
Girl Scout Troop 88190	391 Warren St	Crosswalks Warren Street	Petitioners
George Darcy	93 Hobbs Rd	Bike Lanes / Crosswalks Trapelo Road	Ward Councilor
Theresa Youssef	48 Pine St	Medical / Visitor Parking	Petitioner
J. Anne Kent	48 Pine St	Medical / Visitor Parking	Petitioner
April Kououmjian	48 Pine St	Medical / Visitor Parking	Petitioner
Iry Grosett	48 Pine St	Medical / Visitor Parking	Petitioner
Debbie Spina	48 Pine St	Medical / Visitor Parking	Petitioner