

URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Tuesday, November 1, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dennis Roberts, City Council Member
Pat Connolly, Chief of Police
Joe Smith, Senior Civil Engineer

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

William Gladson, 1927 Prairie Winds Drive
Tim Boisseau, 1905 South Prairie Winds Drive
John Collins, Operations Supervisor

The meeting began at 4:03 p.m.

Additions to the agenda:

There were no additions to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes:

Joe Smith moved to approve the minutes as read. Pat Connolly seconded the motion. The Commission voted 2-0 to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2011 meeting.

Dennis Roberts assumed the chair.

Unfinished Business

Item #1- Discussion of the location of the bus stop at the intersection of Kerr Avenue and Division Avenue.

Joe Smith moved to install a "School Bus Stop Ahead" warning sign for westbound traffic on Kerr Avenue as it approaches Division Avenue.

Pat Connolly seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0. This item does not require Council action.

Joe Smith requested that this item be removed from the agenda.

Item #2- Discussion of speeding vehicles on Prairiewinds Drive.

William Gladston expressed concern about people using walkers and motorized wheelchairs on the street. He was concerned about motorists driving too fast as they approached the driveway to the south of the Prairie Winds facility.

Joe Smith discussed the results of a speed study he conducted on Monday, October 31, 2011 from 2:35 p.m. to 5:35 p.m. He said that he observed 72 vehicles during that time; one motorist was driving 30 miles per hour; one was driving 27; two were driving 25; two were driving 23 and the remainder drove an average of 18 miles per hour. He mentioned that he observed two scooters; one of the scooters was in the street on Colorado Avenue instead of using the sidewalk.

Pat Connolly asked Tim Boisseau if Prairie Winds had a newsletter where the residents could be asked to use sidewalks instead of using their scooters in the streets.

Mr. Boisseau said he would ask residents of Prairie Winds to use sidewalks instead of the streets when using scooters. He added that there were no posted speed limits on Prairie Winds Drive.

Although the vehicles were not speeding, Mr. Smith pointed out that the four fastest speeds during the study were those of people leaving the Prairie Winds parking lot located south of the facility.

Joe Smith recommended reducing the speed limit on Prairie Winds Drive from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour based upon the results of the speed study.

Dennis Roberts moved to reduce the speed limit to 25 miles per hour.

Pat Connolly seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

New Business

Item #3- Discussion of changing the yield signs to stop signs on Illinois Street at Poplar Street.

Note: The agenda incorrectly listed this item as "changing the yield signs to stop signs on Poplar Street at Illinois Street."

Joe Smith stated that Illinois Street no longer met the criteria for yield signs at the intersection. He said that the yield signs should be changed to stop signs.

Pat Connolly asked if temporary warning flags would be installed to the stop signs.

John Collins said that they would.

Joe Smith moved to install stop signs for eastbound and westbound traffic on Illinois Street at Poplar Street.

Pat Connolly seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

Item #4- Discussion of the installation of stop signs at the intersection of Smith Road and Main Street.

Joe Smith stated that plans were in place to add bicycle lanes to Main Street from Dewey Street to downtown, which might change traffic patterns at the intersection of Smith Road and Main Street. He said that he had completed traffic counts for that intersection in September and would complete a stop sign warrant study to discuss at the December meeting of the Traffic Commission. He added that the City has to comply with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices when considering the placement of stop signs. He said that the restriping of the left and right turn lanes on Smith Road would be part of the bicycle lane project on Main Street.

Item #5- Discussion of parking restrictions in the 1400 block of South Maple Street.

Joe Smith said that the street was 30 feet in width; all of the driveways are double-width so he did not see any problems for vehicles backing out of driveways in the 1400 block of South Maple Street. He noted that there were parking restrictions on Maple Street in the next block north and that there might have been overflow parking in the 1400 block, but that there was not a need to restrict parking in that block.

Joe Smith moved that no restrictions be added to the 1400 block of South Maple Street.

Pat Connolly seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

There will be action on the item.

The meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

The next meeting will be held December 6, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at the Urbana City Building, 400 South Vine Street, second floor conference room.

Note: The location of the December 6, 2011 meeting of the Urbana Traffic Commission has been changed to the Urbana Public Works Department, 706 South Glover Avenue, Urbana, IL 61802.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Stiehl
Recording Secretary