

TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA  
6:30 P.M., October 28, 2019  
GLADSTONE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Members of the Committee: Linda Cosgrove, Len Nelson, Yvonne McNeil, Andrew Labonte, Libby Wentz, Kenneth Moore – Chair, Bill Osburn – Vice-Chair. Council Liaison – Randy Ripley.

1. Call to Order- Ken Moore
  
2. Roll Call- Executive Assistant Kristi Walls
  - a. Present:
  - b. Absent:
  
3. Approval of August 26, 2019 Minutes - Ken Moore
  
4. Business from the Board - Ken Moore
  
5. Roundtable Discussion – Board
  - a. Mission Statement Discussion
  - b. Date change for December meeting
  - c. 2020 Meeting Dates ( 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every other month)
  
6. Police Department Updates - Chief Schmerber

**7. Community Input** – Visitors: This is an opportunity for members of the audience to bring to the Commission’s attention any item not otherwise listed on the Agenda. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person. Speakers may not yield their time to others and must fill out a speaker card available in the back of the room prior to making a comment.

**8. Adjourn**

## GLADSTONE TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES of August 26, 2019

Meeting was called to order at approximately 6:30 PM.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Chair Ken Moore, Andrew Labonte, Len Nelson, Linda Cosgrove, Yvonne McNeil, Bill Osburn

### **ABSENT:**

Libby Wentz

### **STAFF:**

Kristi Walls, Executive Assistant; Randy Ripley, City Council Liaison; Jim Whynot, Public Works Director; John Schmerber, Police Chief; Sean Boyle, Code Enforcement Officer; Matt Bell, Kittleson & Associates

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#### **1. Call to Order – Introductions**

#### **2. Approval of June 24, 2019 Minutes:**

*Yvonne McNeil made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

#### **3. Discussion of Traffic Concerns on Nelson Lane/Harvard Avenue:**

Len Nelson said that there is not enough room for two cars to be at the curb and one to come through the middle. The Mayor received a complaint from a citizen, Marc Snell – he is asking for additional stop signs due to more traffic traveling at higher speeds and visibility issues at one of the intersections. Officer Boyle said the issues with parking on both sides of the street is going to require some more in depth research because some parts of Nelson and Harvard were permit-parking only at some point. He went over the code regarding clear vision standards at intersections. They went to the area and determined that the shrubs near the intersection need to be trimmed down to a height of 3 feet in order to meet the standards. Chief Schmerber said the volume of traffic there may not justify forcing the residents to trim the shrubs. Chair Moore asked the board members for their opinions – the general consensus was that the volume of traffic is very light, the shrubs should be trimmed, but stop signs are not warranted at this point. Officer Boyle will contact the residents regarding trimming the shrubs and provide feedback to the board members.

#### **4. Business from the Board:**

Chair Moore said at the last meeting they had a citizen complain about a blind corner/parked vehicles/speeding vehicles at Heather Way/Oatfield Road. There was discussion regarding posting no parking signs near the intersection. Chief Schmerber said they can do routine patrols to check for violations and address them as they come.

There was another citizen complaint regarding the parking near Cross Park, speeding vehicles, and the signage in/out of the area. Chair Moore has looked at the area and recommends a 15 mph speed limit sign be posted near the entrance of the area. Chief Schmerber said they have been doing routine patrols in the area at night so those concerns have been addressed.

Mr. Whynot said they looked into the issues a little deeper because they have a project in the area that is part of the Transportation System Plan that he feels will resolve a lot of the issues. They had Kittleson & Associates look at the situation and put together three scenarios. Mr. Whynot went over the scenarios. He said there *is* a speed sign missing and that will be replaced. There was discussion regarding the costs/scenarios.

*Yvonne McNeil made a motion to go with scenario #3. Motion was seconded by Bill Osburn. Motion passed 5-1 (Andrew Labonte abstained for now, but will advise Chief Schmerber when he makes a decision).*

**5. Police Department Updates:**

Chief Schmerber went over the internal process of how to close the loop in regard to citizen complaints. He said citizens are owed a response. He said once we have direction and a path to go on the issue will go back to the Board and the Chair will close the loop with the citizen and/or they make a recommendation to the City Council. Everyone agreed.

Chair Moore feels it is important to have a mission statement. He wrote two versions and asked everyone for input. There was discussion. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Chief Schmerber went over the Lexipol system – their policy and procedures manual. It is a nationwide system and the attorneys provide them with continual updates regarding liability issues, criminal/traffic enforcement, best practices on how they deliver services, etc. He said the officers are well trained, professional, passionate about the City of Gladstone, and they are working off industry standards.

He gave an update regarding traffic safety/enforcement efforts. They received a grant to conduct a pedestrian sting this month, along with DUII enforcement. In the future they will focus on a reverse pedestrian sting. Portland Avenue/Exeter: they received some complaints regarding vehicles not stopping for pedestrians. Out of 42 crossings it only yielded two stops. East Arlington/Harvard: yielded 21 stops in a total of two hours. This time they were primarily focused on awareness/giving warnings - they will be conducting two more stings shortly and they will not be issuing warnings. They advertise these events in advance and post signs in the areas. Chief Schmerber provided some statistics: Since the last meeting they had 136 total traffic violations - the top five were Driving Uninsured, Expired Tags, Driving While Suspended, Failure to Obey a Traffic Control Device, and No Operator's License.

He has done some research on truck routes – to have a study done would be a huge undertaking. He said that truck routes are very difficult to enforce. There was discussion regarding issues with trucks going through the city limits. Linda Cosgrove asked the status of the no truck route/traffic signs for trucks on Gloucester - they have not been put up. There was further discussion regarding volume of truck traffic, costs, enforcement, etc. Chief Schmerber said he will work with Mr. Whynot regarding the process involved and will report back.

Chief Schmerber said he feels that the electric/solar panel speed signs add a lot of value and slow people down. He would like to get more of them to place in different areas of the City. There was discussion regarding the “A-frame” signs that go along with the speed signs.

**6. Business from the Board:**

Andrew Labonte would like to discuss some topics at a future meeting: 1) trying to improve helmet use amongst the middle school and elementary school kids, 2) safe ways to increase parking in the downtown area (diagonal parking spaces), and 3) Glen Echo going toward McLoughlin there is a right turn only sign – as an experienced driver you realize you can go straight through but it could be misleading to some folks (it was pointed out that this would be Clackamas County's jurisdiction).

He asked why the speed trailer was put on Valley View – it was a citizen complaint. There is no data available from it yet because Sgt. Okerman has been on vacation.

He suggested conducting a pedestrian sting in the area of Oatfield/Ridgegate.

Bill Osburn asked about painting/marketing the curbs behind the high school (Nelson Avenue) because the signs that indicate you can't park there during school hours/days are set back.

He did not attend the Network dinner with County Traffic Safety. Andrew Labonte did attend – it was general information and trying to get the different boards on the same page. A representative would like to attend a future board meeting. Bill Osburn said they had talked about creating a tutorial video related to the basics of driving safely/etiquette (merging, yielding, etc.). It was suggested that the information could be included in the City newsletter/website.

He asked if there was any way to do policing/education regarding people littering cigarette butts. Chief Schmerber said he wants to have a discussion with Ms. Betz regarding posting information like this and other safety related information.

**Adjourn:**

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:28 PM.