

Minutes of the **Transportation Commission** Meeting Held on Tuesday,
April 22, 1999 at **7:30 p.m.** in the **Training Room** of the Village Hall,
1200 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois 60091

Members Present: Neil Ferrari
Dominick Gatto
Andrew Hansen
Barbara Lusky
Alan Swanson, Chairman
Roger Teal

Members Absent: Amy Panici

Staff Present: Robert S. Lewis, Village Engineer
Don George, Parking Enforcement Officer
Officer Julie Parisi, Traffic Coordinator

Staff Absent: George Carpenter, Chief of Police
Linda Reilley, Engineering Assistant

1. **Approval of the March meeting minutes**

Chairman Swanson called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and called the roll. **Commissioner Ferrari** moved to approve the March minutes with one correction. **Commissioner Hansen** seconded the motion. The *motion carried unanimously by voice vote.*

2. **Presentation of Bicycle Task Force January minutes and pending Task Force issues**

Commissioner Gatto reported that Commissioner Hansen, as well as representatives of the Wilmette Park District, and School District 39 have been appointed to the Bicycle Task Force. Commissioner Gatto noted that the Task Force is continuing its efforts toward the implementation of bicycle paths on Sheridan Road and through the Metra Station parking lot. **Commissioner Gatto** informed the Commission of a proposed bicycle tour of Wilmette, an event that would parallel Memorial Day and Fourth of July activities in the Village. **Commissioner Hansen** added that special activities for children will take place during Bicycle Week, and adults will be the target audience for a presentation at the Library on May 5th. **Officer Parisi** noted that Wendy Rice has worked very closely with

the PTO to revamp bicycle day activities and heighten bicycle safety awareness.

3. Revisit Parking Issues on Fifth Street at Linden – (Don George)

Chairman Swanson explained that discussion on this subject had begun in September 1998, and noted that several letters and phone messages on this subject had been received. **Chairman Swanson** called for comments from community members who were in attendance.

Chairman Swanson recognized **Mr. George Randall**, the owner of the Lindencrest apartment building located at **431 Linden**, who requested that overnight parking be allowed on the west side of the 400 block of Linden.

Chairman Swanson recognized **Kimberly Labor, 431 Linden**, who noted that there is a general lack of 24-hour parking in the neighborhood, and suggested additional space is created to address the apparent need.

The Chairman recognized **Don George**, Parking Enforcement Officer, who indicated that available parking spaces in the 400, 500, and 600 blocks of Linden are utilized 95% of the time. **Officer George** reported on a meeting held on April 21st (minutes not yet approved) which yielded several suggestions that could create as many as 17 new, overnight parking spaces.

Officer George explained that establishing permit parking on the 400, 500 and 600 blocks of Fifth Street would discourage CTA riders from parking on the street, and would encourage businesses and their employees to use the permits available to them through Management Services.

After considerable discussion, **Commissioner Gatto** moved to accept the plan as discussed and amended.

Chairman Swanson reiterated the particulars of the plan, which would include five points:

1. The creation of a permit zone running along Fifth Street mid-way between Laurel and Linden north up to Central Avenue.
2. The elimination of the 2 a.m. – 5 a.m. restriction on both sides of Linden from Fifth Street to the east edge of the 420 Linden Building.
3. Take one-half block of Fifth Street from the alley mid-way between Linden & Laurel *down to* Laurel, and make it permit parking, but make it part of the Laurel zone. (In front of the Donovan and Kraemer homes).
4. Send a letter to residents of the south side of the 400 block of Greenleaf alerting them of the possibility of eliminating the “no parking 2 a.m. – 5 a.m.” (include a map) which will illicit a response.
5. Reduce the “no parking zone” in front of the building on 5th Street on the southeast corner of Fifth & Linden from 40-feet to 20-feet.

Commissioner Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Review Skokie and Hibbard Intersection

Chairman Swanson recognized **Robert S. Lewis** who briefly reviewed the correspondence that had been received by the Engineering Department.

The **Chairman** asked if the Village could paint a crosswalk and put up a pedestrian crossing sign. **Robert S. Lewis** indicated that this could be done with permission from the State. **Commissioner Hansen** expressed reservations about a crosswalk without a signal citing the invitation of liability issues. The **Chairman** called for additional discussion. There was none.

5. Harms / Lake Signal – Fairway & Bunker

The **Chairman** briefly reviewed the history of this issue, noting that the County has expressed an interest in channelizing the intersections and re-counting the traffic at the Fairway / Lake intersection. **Chairman Swanson** noted that channelization of the

intersection is important with regard to safety. After a brief discussion, **Commissioner Ferrari** moved that the Commission recommend that the Village Board respond favorably to the County, and pursue channelization of the intersections and signalization at Fairway. **Commissioner Lusky** seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

6. **Old Business / Pending Matters / Next Meeting**

The *next meeting* was set for Tuesday, May 18, 1999 at 7:30 p.m.

There being no further business, **Commissioner Ferrari** moved for Adjournment and **Commissioner Hansen** seconded the motion. The *Motion passed by Voice Vote and the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.*

Minutes respectfully submitted by Amy E. Hellwig.