

Minutes of the **Transportation Commission** Meeting Held on Tuesday,
September 21, 1999 at **7:30 p.m.** in the **Training Room** of the Village
Hall, 1200 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois 60091

Members Present: Dominick Gatto
 Andrew Hansen
 Barbara Lusky
 Amy Panici
 Alan Swanson, Chairman
 Roger Teal

Members Absent: Neil Ferrari

Staff Present: Robert Conway
 Linda Reilley, Engineering Assistant
 Bob LaMantia, Deputy Chief of Police
 Don George, Parking Enforcement Officer
 Officer Julie Parisi, Traffic Coordinator

Staff Absent: Robert S. Lewis, Village Engineer
 George Carpenter, Chief of Police

1. **Approval of the August 17, 1999 meeting minutes**

Chairman Swanson called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. after a quorum was present, and called the roll. **Commissioner Hansen** moved to approve the minutes. **Commissioner Panici** seconded the motion. *The August 17th minutes were approved by voice vote.*

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

Commissioner Gatto and **Commissioner Hansen** reported a larger-than-expected turnout for the Bicycle Tour of Wilmette, which was held on Labor Day. There were more than 100 participants. The Commissioners thanked the Wilmette Park District for handling the reservations and deemed the event a success.

3. Traffic Calming

The **Chairman** opened the topic of traffic calming along Thornwood Avenue and Locust Road for discussion. The **Chairman** recognized **Linda Reilley** who explained the graphic information provided by the Engineering Department and explained why previously proposed solutions had **not** been implemented in the past.

Commissioner Gatto asked if the speed and volume issues developed before or after the offset of the centerline. **Ms. Reilley** responded that offset of the centerline is not effective.

Commissioner Gatto went over the traffic history of Thornwood. A discussion of Thornwood options including the use of a choking island from Hunter Road to Dartmouth and the associated drainage issues followed. **Commissioner Gatto** expressed his concern that traffic calming efforts on Thornwood would re-direct traffic onto Kenilworth Avenue. **Commissioner Gatto** pointed out that because Kenilworth does not have sidewalks and the intersection with Locust Road is problematic, any traffic calming on Thornwood would also need to address the traffic that would be diverted to Kenilworth. **Commissioner Gatto** posed the question(s) of the usefulness of better marking, and the effectiveness of increased enforcement. During the subsequent discussion, concern was raised that Locust is too narrow for traffic circles.

Chairman Swanson suggested the possible use of speed humps off Ridge Road at Beachwood and Kenilworth Avenue. **Officer Parisi** expressed concern about the use of speed humps on Locust Road since the sidewalk is located **at the curb**.

Commissioner Teal feels the neighborhood would prefer traffic circles, and suggested elimination of the traffic circle at Iroquois and the addition of traffic circles at Locust/ Mohawk and Locust/Blackhawk. **Chairman Swanson** reminded the Commission that the sidewalks at these intersections would have to be reconfigured if traffic circles are employed.

Commissioner Teal requested that staff further research the feasibility of traffic circles as a traffic calming device on Locust Road.

Commissioner Gatto suggested raising the curb at the hump locations. The use of traffic humps on Manor Drive, choking islands

on Thornwood at the Park, rumble strips and sound barriers were also discussed.

Commissioner Hansen proposed that a speed hump pilot project on Manor Drive be incorporated into the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) program for next year and asked that a public meeting on the issue be held. **Commissioner Panici** seconded the motion. *The motion passed by voice vote.*

Chairman Swanson directed Staff to follow up with other options and the associated costs, and to complete a traffic count on Kenilworth and Dartmouth.

Commissioner Gatto moved to hold a public meeting for Locust Road residents from Illinois to Lake on the implementation of traffic circles and speed humps on Locust Road, including sidewalk improvements. To increase safety, **Commissioner Gatto** proposed that the sidewalk be moved 5-feet at these intersections. **Commissioner Lusky** seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

4. Parking on Narrow Streets

Chairman Swanson recognized **Linda Reilley** who presented the pie chart, spreadsheet, narrow street map, and explained the proposed Village Ordinance to post “No Parking” signs on streets 20-feet wide or less.

Commissioner Panici moved that with the recommendation of the Village Board, the Ordinance be amended so that streets 24-feet (wide) or less can be posted “No Parking Anytime” on one side of the street. **Commissioner Hansen** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Chairman Swanson requested the participation of the Fire Chief and the Director of Public Works in a discussion of the posting of “No Parking” signs on Narrow Streets—those 25’ – 27’ wide.

The **Chairman** *scheduled this meeting for October 19, 1999*, to run concurrent with the Transportation Commission monthly meeting.

5. Feedback

Three completed surveys were returned to the Commission and were acknowledged by **Chairman Swanson**.

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

Regarding Sterling Lane, the consensus of the Commission was that the only safe alternative is the turning restriction that is already in place.

A public meeting to discuss a proposed speed hump pilot project on Manor Drive will take place prior to implementation of the project.

The *next meeting* was set for *Tuesday, October 19, 1999 at 7:30 p.m.* to discuss Gillson Park data, presented by Terry Porter, and the preliminary design of the Wilmette Avenue construction.

There being no further business, **Commissioner Lusky** moved for adjournment. **Commissioner Panici** seconded the motion. *The motion passed by voice vote* and the meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Amy E. Hellwig.