

Minutes of the **Transportation Commission** Meeting Held on Thursday,
April 18, 2000 at **7:30 p.m.** in the **Training Room** of the Village Hall,
1200 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois 60091

Members Present: Andrew Hansen
Barbara Lusky
Amy Panici
Steve Schlickman
Alan Swanson, Chairman
Roger Teal

Members Absent: Neil Ferrari

Staff Present: Robert S. Lewis, Village Engineer
Linda Reilley, Engineering Assistant
Kevin Wachtel, Administrative Analyst
George Carpenter, Chief of Police
Don George, Parking Enforcement Officer

Staff Absent: Officer Julie Parisi, Traffic Coordinator

Also Present: Several residents representing the 400 block of
Linden, the 500 block of Central, the 500 & 600
blocks of Fifth Street, Manor Drive, and Forest
Avenue

1. **Approval of the March 16, 2000 Minutes**

Chairman Swanson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and called the roll. **Commissioner Hansen** moved to approve the minutes. **Commissioner Swanson** seconded the motion. *The March 16th minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.*

Chairman Swanson introduced **Stephen Schlickman**, and welcomed him as a member of the Commission.

2. **Presentation of Bicycle Task Force February/March minutes and pending Task Force issues**

Chairman Swanson recognized **Linda Reilley** who reported that the Bicycle Task Force has set a May 28th date for its Memorial Day bicycle tour. **Ms. Reilley** noted that the theme chosen for the tour is “the history of Wilmette parks”, but the route has not yet been determined. A waiver will be available at Village Hall and the Park District for anyone wishing to sign up in advance.

3. **Review “P” permit parking on Fifth Street between Central & Linden**

Chairman Swanson provided a history of the parking issues in the Fifth & Linden area. **Chairman Swanson** informed those present that the Commission had looked at several ways to increase the amount of parking in the area; and as a result, the “P” permit parking zone was approved in April 1999. **Chairman Swanson** explained that the Commission had met with the neighborhood again in November 1999. After considerable discussion at the November meeting, the parking enforcement officer was directed to conduct a parking survey and report the results at the March 2000 meeting.

Chairman Swanson spoke about using some spots in the CTA lot, but will require some more time and information. He thought there would not likely be a problem, but could take several months to get the spots. **Linda Reilley** thought that the Village Manager’s Office had been working on obtaining more spots in the CTA lot.

Robert Lewis commented on concerns of the commercial properties in the area. Spoke about changing parking in front of the commercial properties. **Chief Carpenter** echoed **Lewis’** comments.

Resident from 618 5th Street supported retaining parking on 5th street because many cars use those spots. These spots are needed for the residents north of the alley and the people in the apartment building.

Resident of the townhouses commented that they cannot park in front of their homes because others are parking there. They are opposed to others parking in front of their townhouses.

Amy Panici recommended looking at adding parking on Linden to see if there is a change in the parking habits of area residents before parking is taken away.

Don George, Robert Lewis, and Linda Reilley discussed changing the time restrictions of parking in the business district along Linden. They suggested changing the time restriction to 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M., which would free-up parking for commercial parking.

Amy Panici made a motion to approve parking on the south side of Linden in the 400 block, and restrict to two-hour parking beginning at 7:00 A.M. **Barbara Lusky** seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The Commission will look for CTA Ridership information to be on the June Agenda.

4. Discussion of Speed Humps on Manor Drive

Chairman Swanson reviewed some issues with speeding motorists and traffic calming issues. Traffic calming is a nationwide issue that many communities are facing. Manor Drive is a prime candidate for the installation of speed humps based on traffic volume and other factors. Manor Drive will be resurfaced later this year, so it is an excellent opportunity to install speed humps to evaluate their effectiveness.

Linda Reilley and **Robert Lewis** outlined the specific criteria for placement of the speed humps. Factors include drainage issues, Loyola traffic patterns, residential driveways, and overall effectiveness.

A **Manor Drive resident** inquired about installing stop signs and reducing speed limits. Other **Manor Drive residents** made specific inquiries about the effects speed humps would have. The general consensus of Manor Drive residents was tremendous support of installing speed humps.

The Commission directed staff to draft a letter to send to Manor Drive Residents informing them of plans to install speed humps and asking for feedback. **Chairman Swanson** asked residents for any comments and opinions on the installation of speed humps.

This issue required no action from the **Commission**. Therefore, no action was taken.

5. **Discussion of Traffic on the 1400 Block of Forest**

Tim Perry, resident of the 1400 block of Forest, introduced his concerns with the continuing construction of Green Bay Road. Many cars attempt to avoid the Green Bay/Lake intersection and are adversely affecting residents on Forest and Elmwood. **Mr. Perry** inquired about placing signs or other traffic calming measures in the area to reduce traffic. **Many other residents** of the 1400 block of Forest were concerned about cut-through traffic on Forest, Elmwood and 15th Street.

Robert Lewis brought up the solution of placing “type-3” barricades with “Local Traffic Only” signs on the Green Bay end of Forest and Elmwood.

George Carpenter, Robert Lewis, and Chairman Swanson discussed construction traffic on residential streets. The **Commission** asked **Robert Lewis** to place type-3 barricades at Forest Avenue, Elmwood, and 15th Street at Green Bay Road. Also “No Trucks” signs posted on southbound 15th at Green Bay and northbound at Lake. **Robert Lewis** agreed to have them installed as part of the traffic control for the Green Bay Road Improvement Project, as it falls under the authority of the Village Engineer.

Amy Panici made a motion to place type-3 barricades at Forest Avenue, Elmwood, and 15th Street at Green Bay Road. Also “No Trucks” signs posted on southbound 15th at Green Bay and northbound at Lake. **Barbara Lusky** seconded. *The Commission voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the motion.*

6. **Harper School Traffic Study** – *information only*

Amy Panici reviewed the Harper School Traffic Study and discussed issues regarding Harper Schools impact analysis. The school is considering more parking and/or parking lots to help relieve drop-off problems. **Amy Panici, Chairman Swanson, Robert Lewis, and Linda Reilley** discussed specifics relating to the Harper School area.

Chairman Swanson reminded the Commission and audience that this issue is before the Transportation Commission for *opinion only*.

The Commission does not have formal authority at this time. The proposal would require a special use permit, which cannot be formally reviewed until the permit application has been submitted.

7. **Feedback**

Robert Lewis reviewed the Village Board's actions regarding the proposed "Narrow Street Parking Ban." The Board did not approve the Narrow Street Parking Ban, but was appreciative of the Commission and staff bringing forth this issue. Many of the residents in attendance at the Village Board were Isabella and other border street residents, which may have been exempt from the parking ban. The Board decided that parking ban should be done on a case-by-case basis.

Chairman Swanson said that there were many people were in favor of the parking ban, but were not heard at the Board meeting. The **Commission** voiced their concerns and agreed that their standing opinion was that streets under 24-feet wide should have one side parking ban as previously recommended.

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

The *next meeting* was scheduled for **Tuesday, May 16, 2000 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Second Floor Training room to review the Harper School traffic study and review of school crossing guards. Other issues to be addressed at a later date are: signage on the Green Bay bicycle trail, Sterling Lane petition, 300 block of Maple petition, and discussion of the Jewel traffic study.

There being no further business, **Commissioner Teal** moved for adjournment. **Commissioner Schlickman** seconded the motion. *The motion passed by unanimous voice vote* and the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kevin C. Wachtel.