

Minutes of the **Transportation Commission** Meeting Held on Tuesday,  
**April 17, 2001** at **7:30 p.m.** in the **Training Room** of the Village Hall,  
1200 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois 60091

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Members Present: Neil Ferrari  
Andrew Hansen  
Barbara Lusky  
Amy Panici  
Alan Swanson, Chairman  
Roger Teal

Members Absent: Steve Schlickman

Staff Present: George Carpenter, Chief of Police  
Brigitte A. Mayerhofer, P.E., Director of  
Engineering

Staff Absent: Linda Reilley, Engineering Assistant  
Don E. George, Parking Enforcement Officer  
Julie Parisi, Traffic Coordinator  
Ken Rydz, Deputy Chief of Police

Also Present: Lou Ascherman, 812 Prairie  
Ralph Bassett, Jr., 2046 Wilmette Avenue  
Barbara Geiger, 510 Fifth Street  
Laurie Goldstein, 822 Prairie  
Joyce Meier, 404 Illinois  
David Melchiorre, 1400 Washington  
Lori Rutstein, 915 Locust  
Peter & Katie Tetzlaff, 410 Illinois Road  
Greg Thelan, 818 Prairie Avenue

1. **Approval of the March 20, 2001 Minutes**

**Chairman Swanson** called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and called the roll. With a quorum present, **Chairman Swanson** began the meeting by welcoming interested parties in attendance. Turning to the March minutes, **Chairman Swanson** recognized

**Commissioner Ferrari** who requested that the Commission be provided with a copy of the revised February minutes at the May meeting, which included a discussion of a budget and the necessity for a well-designed traffic-calming prototype. **Commissioner Lusky** moved to approve the March minutes. **Commissioner Ferrari** seconded the motion. *The March minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.*

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

**Chairman Swanson** noted that the March minutes of the Bicycle Task Force were included in the agenda materials. **Chairman Swanson** asked Ms. Mayerhofer for a report. **Ms. Mayerhofer** reminded the Commissioners that the Memorial Day Historical Bicycle Tour would take place on Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

3. **Intersection alignment issues at Wilmette Avenue and Illinois Road—(status)**

**Chairman Swanson** recognized **Brigitte Mayerhofer** who reiterated the proposed realignment of the intersection, which would extend the parkway on the east side of Illinois Road to create a more difficult turn—much like the one at Park & Lake. Residents who commented were all in favor of the plan. **Peter Tetzlaff**, 410 Illinois, said he was pleased with the plan and expressed his hope that it will slow traffic—particularly for children walking to and from Highcrest School—and improve driveway ingress and egress. **Ralph Bassett**, 2046 Wilmette, said the plan looks like a good one and he is in favor of it.

Noting that she has seen children crossing near Old Glenview Road, **Commissioner Panici** suggested that, because of greater visibility, a crosswalk be striped to get them safely from north to south. One of the neighbors mentioned that crossing there has only been occasional. **Commissioner Ferrari** cautioned against a crossing at this location because of the slight “rise” on the Hunter side, which may obscure on-coming vehicles.

**Chairman Swanson** indicated that an improvement is physically feasible, but the Commission does not have the authority to allocate funds for remedies, but makes recommendations to the Village Board.

**Commissioner Ferrari** moved that the Commission recommend that the Village Board include funding in its budget for the intersection improvements as presented. **Commissioner Ferrari** also requested that Staff investigate appropriate sources of funding for the project since the realignment is for the express purpose of safety and traffic calming. **Commissioner Lusky** seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Commissioner Ferrari** asked **Ms. Mayerhofer** to keep the Commission apprised of funding discussions during the budget process.

4. **Petition for Permit Parking on the 800 block of Prairie Avenue**

**Chairman Swanson** opened the discussion by recognizing residents **Lou Ascherman** and **Greg Thelan** who indicated that permits had been approved and issued, but companion signage had not been installed. The **Chairman** agreed that the request seemed reasonable and meets the requirements for permit parking

**Commissioner Panici** moved to grant the request for “Two Hour Parking 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. *Except by Permit*”, and installation of appropriate signage. **Commissioner Hansen** seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Chairman Swanson** directed the **Village Engineer** to research the history of permit parking on the 700 and 800 blocks of Prairie Avenue, the installation of signs and availability of permits.

An **unidentified resident** initiated a discussion about removing the “yield” sign at the intersection of Prairie and Washington and replacing it with a “Stop” sign. **Police Chief Carpenter** noted that “yield” signs are not his particular preference and offered to meet with **Ms. Mayerhofer** to compare philosophies on appropriate signage and take a closer look at the intersection.

5. **Traffic Calming on Locust Road**

**Chairman Swanson** directed Staff to provide speed / volume analysis of Manor Drive since the speed humps have been in place. The next experiment will be to provide traffic calming (perhaps traffic circles) on Locust from Illinois to Lake at the three internal intersections.

Staff will hire a consultant to provide an analysis and recommendation of traffic circle types and / or other traffic calming alternatives. **Ms. Mayerhofer** suggested that Staff prepare a schedule, based on the traffic calming policy, for the next meeting. After this has been done, the neighborhood will be invited to attend a meeting with the Transportation Commission and comment on the options.

**Commissioner Lusky** asked for the status of the Edens Plaza signal. Staff will prepare an update for the May meeting.

6. **400 block Linden review of removal of No Parking 2 am—5pm**

**Chairman Swanson** turned the discussion to the request to review the removal of No Parking from 2 am—5 pm. The **Chairman** asked what parking restrictions currently exist on the north side of the 400 block of Linden. **Chairman Swanson** directed Staff to verify the existing restrictions, provide a map for the next meeting and re-notice the block as necessary. Action was deferred until the May meeting. **Chairman Swanson** recognized **Chief Carpenter** who expressed his opposition to the removal of the restrictions because other parking at the C.T.A. lot is not fully utilized. **Chairman Swanson** directed Staff to verify how many spaces are available in the C.T.A. lot and whether it is possible to acquire additional spaces. The **Chairman** asked if there is a record of additional spaces previously acquired. Staff will research this.

7. **Feedback**

**Chairman Swanson** thanked residents for attending and distributed resident questionnaires.

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

The **Chairman** called for agenda items. The Commission will discuss traffic calming on Locust, a parking request from the 400 block of Linden. **Chairman Swanson** reminded the Commission that Crossing Guard Locations would also need to be addressed in May. **Commissioner Lusky** asked for an update on the Edens Plaza traffic signal. **Ms. Mayerhofer** volunteered to have **Paul Kneoppel** prepare an update for the Commission's May meeting. **Commissioner Panici** informed the Commission that the Board of Education voted (as part of Phase I) to reinstate the diagonal parking south of Harper School on Dartmouth so it can be used for

teacher parking. Teachers will also park on the south side of Thornwood Avenue. Without dedicated visitor parking, visitors will park on Village streets.

Breaking with its regular schedule, the Commission scheduled its next meeting for Thursday, May 10, 2001.

**Commissioner Panici** moved for adjournment, **Commissioner Lusky** seconded the motion. There being no further business, *the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.*

Minutes respectfully submitted by Amy E. Hellwig