

**Minutes of the Transportation Commission Meeting held on Wednesday, August 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Second Floor Training Room at Village Hall, 1200 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois 60091.

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Members Present: Clayton Weaver, Chairperson  
Eileen Miller-Girson  
Paul Chouinard (7:20)  
Jim Grosh  
Cathy Albrecht

Members Absent: Rachel Nocera  
Mark Wagstaff

Staff Present: Brigitte Mayerhofer, P.E., Director of Engineering  
Linda Reilley, Engineering Assistant  
George Carpenter, Police Chief  
Officer Valerie Davis  
Officer Terrence Fitzpatrick  
Police Commander Pat Collins

Also Present: None

Chairman Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**1. Review of Minutes**

**Motion to approve the June 13, 2007 meeting minutes.**

Motion by: Commissioner Grosh  
Second: Commissioner Miller-Girson  
Discussion: None  
**Action: Approved by unanimous voice vote**

**2. Review of Bike Task Force minutes**

- Ms. Reilley highlighted the activities of the Bicycle Task Force including the bike to soccer event this September and the opening of the Sheridan Road Bike Path.
- Chairman Weaver mentioned the meeting on August 14 in which the Administration Committee will discuss combining the Transportation Commission and the Bicycle Task Force. Ms. Reilley stated the Bike Task Force is not in favor of this, because the two groups function very differently. The BTF is very active in planning biking events and organizing volunteers. They are very self sufficient and do not require much staff time. The Transportation Commission is a Board that reviews policy related to

traffic control, parking and traffic calming. There was consensus that combining the functions would not be desirable.

### **3. Alive at 25—Presentation by the Police Department**

- Chief Carpenter introduced Officers Davis and Fitzpatrick who are the trained officers that will lead the program. He stated the goal of the program is to teach decision making behind the wheel, rather than the rules of the road. The classes will be informal and interactive. The program kicks off in September with four Saturdays. Classes are 4.5 hours long.
- Officer Davis provided a power point presentation and is referenced as an attachment to the minutes.
- Commissioner Chouinard asked if there is any proof that the program works to which Officer Fitzpatrick provided statistics from Colorado indicating the accident rates for teen drivers are astoundingly low compared to nationwide averages.
- Commissioner Albrecht asked the Officers to describe the licensing procedure in Illinois for teens.
- Officer Fitzpatrick handed out workbooks that are used during the training.
- Commissioner Chouinard asked if local statistics are available, instead of national statistics. Officer Davis stated the numbers for Illinois are lower than the nationwide totals, but the accident demographic percentages are the same.
- A discussion ensued about the graduated driver's license regulations.
- Chief Carpenter indicated the first class will be made available free of charge for children of Boards and Commission members. Otherwise, there is a \$50 charge to take the class. Commissioner Albrecht thought charging was a good idea because it validates the program and requires a commitment from the parents.
- Chief Carpenter stated similar presentations will be made to the Rotary Clubs and Youth Commission and articles will be prepared for the *Wilmette Life* and *Communicator* to get the word out.
- The Commission asked if the program was just for Wilmette teens to which Chief Carpenter indicated that depended on how popular the program becomes.
- Commissioner Albrecht asked if there is a difference between boys and girls when looking at accident rates. Officer Davis stated that studies show girls are more aggressive drivers.
- Officer Fitzpatrick indicated the teen will get a certificate at the end of the program which could be eligible for a discount by some insurance carriers.

- Commissioner Miller Girson thought the video clip of the siblings mourning the loss of their sister was very effective.
- The discussion concluded with Chief Carpenter indicating he would appreciate the Commission's support for the program. The Commission thanked the officers for the presentation and concurred that it will be very well received by the community.

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

- Chief Carpenter provided an update on the Panera accident.
- Ms. Mayerhofer provided updates on the Central Avenue parking changes, Washington Avenue parking changes and the Loyola neighborhood study. She also stated a study of the Lake Avenue changes will occur this fall.
- Commissioner Albrecht asked about the restriping on Hunter Road at Lake Avenue, to which Ms. Reilley indicated the left turn lanes should be installed in time for school to start.
- Commissioner Albrecht asked if there could be additional officers at Central School for the first few days of school as well as temporary "no parking" signs.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2007.

**Motion to adjourn.**

**Motion by: Commissioner Miller-Girson**

**Second: Commissioner Albrecht**

**Action: Approved by unanimous voice vote**

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by B. Mayerhofer