

TRAFFIC SAFETY WORK GROUP

Minutes of the meeting of May 25, 2023. The meeting took place via remote participation using Zoom. Members present were Arthur Gasbarro, Transportation Program Manager Mike Burns, Police Chief William Pittman and Fire Chief Michael Cranson. Department of Public Works (DPW) Lines and Signs Foreman, Ray Sylvia, and Mickey Rowland of the Commission on Disability were absent. DPW Deputy Director Richard Moore arrived later in the meeting as noted.

I. Call To Order

Chair Gasbarro called the meeting to order at 10:33 AM.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Election of Officers

Chair Gasbarro said he would like to continue to serve as Chair unless someone else is interested. Mr. Burns nominated Mr. Gasbarro as Chair; seconded by Chief Pittman; by roll call vote: Mr. Burns – Yes; Chief Cranson – Yes; Chief Pittman; Yes; Chair Gasbarro – Yes; so voted.

Chair Gasbarro said he would like there to be a Vice Chair and nominated Mr. Burns; seconded by Chief Pittman; by roll call vote: Chief Cranson – Yes; Chief Pittman – Yes; Mr. Burns – Yes; Chair Gasbarro – Yes; so voted.

IV. Official Business

1. Review request to adjust yellow no parking line across from 10 York Street (previously approved April 15, 2021) to accommodate new driveway relocation. Chair Gasbarro said he will have to recuse from this matter and moved it to the end of the agenda in hope of a quorum.

2. Review request to adjust yellow no parking lines at 2 Back Street. Howard Martin reviewed the request, noting that the old house at the back of the lot was demolished and a new house at the front of the lot constructed, and the new front entrance is in a different location, necessitating the need to move the existing yellow “no parking” lines on the street. Ms. Martin clarified where he would like new yellow lines – at the new gate and across from his driveway, saying it is difficult to pull in and out. Chief Pittman said he is not in favor of a yellow line at the new gate and suggested Mr. Martin turn the walkway from the front entrance to the driveway and he doesn’t want to see more on-street parking eliminated. Mr. Martin asked for the DPW to come and “figure it out”. Mr. Burns said he would like to see a more detailed plan with the existing yellow lines shown and also what is being proposed. Operations Administrator Erika Mooney noted that the driveway already existed in this location, seemingly with no issues. Mr. Martin said they have made it even bigger with the new construction. The consensus was to hold the request for a revised survey plan with existing and proposed yellow lines.

3. Review Hospital Thrift Shop parking change requests in front of 17 India Street. Mary Casey of the Hospital Thrift Shop reviewed the request, noting people are constantly parking in the existing 15-minute parking space instead of using it as a quick stop for dropping off merchandise. She asked that the DPW repaint the white box surrounding the 15-minute parking space and the yellow lines on either side of it. Ms. Casey said the space needs to be a “live space” and not where people park while waiting for people to shop. Chief Pittman said 15-minute spaces are difficult to enforce and suggested changing the space to a dedicated loading zone for periods of time. Following some discussion on days of the week and times,

Chief Pittman moved to convert the current 15-minute parking space to a loading zone, Monday through Saturday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM; seconded by Chief Cranson; by roll call vote: Chief Pittman – Yes; Chief Cranson – Yes; Mr. Burns – Yes; Chair Gasbarro – Yes; so voted.

DPW Deputy Director Richard Moore joined the meeting at 10:58 AM.

4. Review request for curb cut for 12 Gay Street, resulting in the elimination of one on-street parking space on Westminster Street. Chair Gasbarro recused himself from this matter. David McCree reviewed the request, noting there is an existing curb cut for the property on Westminster Street from a prior driveway that had been eliminated for some years and he hopes to reestablish. Chief Pittman moved to approve the request for a curb cut as requested, which would eliminate one on-street parking space; seconded by Chief Cranson. Mr. Burns asked if a net gain could be had, by adding room for two vehicles in the new driveway. Mr. McCree said he hoped to keep the greenspace in the yard. On the motion, by roll call vote: Chief Pittman – Yes; Chief Cranson – Yes; Mr. Moore – Yes; Mr. Burns – Yes; so voted.

5. Review request to change Surfside Road/Miacomet Rod/Surfside Drive to a 4-way stop; move crosswalk on Surfside Road at Bartlett Road closer to Bartlett Road. Chair Gasbarro noted that the requestor, Michael Humphrey, is not present but communicated with him about his requests.

- Change Surfside Road/Miacomet Rod/Surfside Drive to a 4-way stop – Mr. Burns noted that intersection control has been recommended in the past but it need study and engineering review. Ms. Mooney asked if it could be done on a temporary/trial basis like the three-way stop at Surfside Road and Bartlett Road. Chair Gasbarro said he feels a study is needed before a trial is attempted. Mr. Burns said that many intersections have issues and they need to be studied and crash data analyzed. He offered to add it to the study list; the group consensus was to do so. Walter Flaherty stated that straightening this intersection was previously discussed. Mr. Burns said he wants to “do his homework” on this.
- Move crosswalk on Surfside Road at Bartlett Road closer to Bartlett Road – the work group reviewed a GIS map of the area. Chair Gasbarro said he is not sure there is a better location. Mr. Burns said this would take a bigger engineering effort with input from the Nantucket Public Schools. Chair Gasbarro suggested the work group take no action; there was consensus to take no action. Mr. Burns added that he has never felt unsafe using that crosswalk.

6. Review request for a crosswalk on Low Beach Road at Silver St. Chair Gasbarro reviewed the request. Chief Pittman moved to approve the installation of a crosswalk as requested; seconded by Mr. Burns; by roll call vote: Mr. Moore – Yes; Chief Cranson – Yes; Chief Pittman – Yes; Mr. Burns – Yes; Chair Gasbarro – Yes; so voted.

7. Review of proposed NanTukTuk pedicab business; update from April 27, 2023 Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee NanTukTuk demonstration and discussion. Chair Gasbarro noted that he attended the April 27, 2023 Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) meeting. Michael Gormley of NanTukTuk stated that one issue BPAC discussed was concern over pedicabs on the truck route. He said he has since spoken with Curren Huyser of Your Friend with a Truck who felt the pedicabs would pose no issue with the truck route. Mr. Gormley said the proposed e-bikes are class 1, the safest e-bikes, which go 20 MPH but can be ordered with governors that restrict the bikes to 15 MPH. He added that he spoke with the pedicab manufacturer and the braking system is “more than” equipped to break fully loaded with passengers and will passengers will have seat belts. Mr. Mooney spoke on her experience with the April 27

demo ride that she took, noting that the pedal assist failed and traffic backed up behind the pedicab starting on Gardner Street as it made its way to the Meeting Trailer at 131 Pleasant Street. She said she didn't feel Mr. Huyser is an expert on the truck route traffic or safety and that she doesn't feel pedicabs should be allowed outside the current service area. Mr. Burns said he appreciated the effort made for the demo and it was unfortunate the electric pedal assist failed as he feels that is important to have. He spoke in favor of changing the Pedicab Regulations to allow for e-bikes. Chair Gasbarro expressed concern about traffic safety and flow and adding another class of vehicle and how it could impact the truck route. Chief Cranson echoed Chair Gasbarro's concerns. Mr. Gormley said the city of Ontario undertook a study and found pedicabs to be the safest vehicle on the road. He claimed they have been proven to be "incredibly" safe as they are half the width of a regular vehicle and will have fully trained operators. Ms. Mooney noted another concern discussed at the BPAC meeting was the charging and storage of e-bike batteries and how that will be addressed. Mr. Gormley said the bikes he would use are top of the line and have batteries that are not problematic. He said he would like to start with two pedicabs or even on for a trial period. Ms. Mooney noted that the final decision is up to the Select Board and that if e-bikes are being proposed the Pedicab Regulations would need to be changed to allow them. Mr. Burns said Cliff Road and North Beach Street are the only areas of concern he sees in the service area. Mr. Burns moved to support a trial pedicab with no change to the service area with pedal assist e-bikes. The motion failed for lack of a second. Chief Pittman moved to take no action. He said the issue he has is that pedal assist bikes would help with traffic but changing the regulations is not easy. Mr. Gormley noted he is starting a pedicab business in Portsmouth, NH this summer. Mr. Moore seconded the motion; by roll call vote: Mr. Moore – Yes; Mr. Burns – Yes; Chief Cranson – Yes; Chief Pittman – Yes; Chair Gasbarro – Yes; so voted.

8. Review request for two temporary parking spaces on Bathing Beach Road for Nantucket Community Sailing to accommodate special needs students. Nantucket Community Sailing (NCS) executive director, Diana Brown, spoke on the request to have two designated parking spaces near NCS's beach entrance on Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons for special needs students, whose parents have to attend lessons with them. Chief Pittman said he sympathized and understands the request but feels the current request is not doable as there are no provisions in the Traffic Regulations to dedicate public parking spaces for private organizations. He suggested a possible accessible parking space instead, with an isle. Chair Gasbarro agreed with Chief Pittman regarding the mechanics of the regulations and enforcement. Ms. Brown said she thinks an accessible space will help. Chair Pittman moved to create one new accessible parking space at the NCS beach entrance with an isle; seconded by Mr. Burns; by roll call vote: Mr. Moore – Yes; Mr. Burns – Yes; Chief Cranson – Yes; Chief Pittman – Yes; Chair Gasbarro – Yes; so voted.

1. Review request to adjust yellow no parking line across from 10 York Street (previously approved April 15, 2021) to accommodate new driveway relocation. Chair Gasbarro recused himself from this matter. Dani Petkova reviewed the request, noting that in 2021 the Traffic Safety Work Group and the Select Board approved a curb cut at 10 York Street which eliminated one on-street parking space, and the DPW painted a yellow no-parking line as approved at that time. She said that since then, the site plans have changed and the driveway was relocated to the other side of the lot; she requested an "adjustment" of the yellow line to accommodate the new driveway location. Mr. Burns asked if a new curb cut has been approved by the DPW; Ms. Mooney said a new curb cut application was not submitted as part of the request. Ms. Petkova said one was submitted but it was conditioned on being able to move the yellow line. Ms. Mooney noted the previous driveway location was across from another driveway so only one parking space was lost. Chief Pittman said he is not in favor as additional on-street parking will be lost because the yellow line painted was across an existing driveway, which would stay, and two new spaces would be lost to accommodate this new double width driveway. Mr. Burns said it is unclear to him how much on-street parking is being

requested to be removed. Some discussion followed. Chief Pittman moved to take no action; Chief Cranson seconded; by roll call vote: Mr. Moore – Yes; Mr. Burns – Yes; Chief Cranson – Yes; Chief Pittman – Yes; so voted.

V. Other Business (For topics not reasonably anticipated 48-hrs in advance of the meeting)

Chief Pittman said he got a call from Bob Baldwin who lives on Liberty Street at Gardner Street about requesting an accessible space on Liberty Street in front of his home. Chief Pittman would like to add this to the next agenda.

Ms. Mooney asked that the Work Group consider having “compact cars only” parking on Fair Street in front of 29 Fair Street. She said that when pulling onto Fair Street from Hillers Lane, it is very difficult to see oncoming traffic when large vehicles are parked there. Chief Pittman said that would be a new classification of vehicles. Chair Gasbarro suggested it be considered the next time the Traffic Regulations are amended.

VI. Approval of minutes of February 16, 2023 at 10:30 AM.

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

VII. Adjournment

Chief Pittman moved adjournment at 12:10 PM; seconded by Mr. Burns; by roll call vote: Mr. Moore – Yes; Mr. Burns – Yes; Chief Cranson – Yes; Chief Pittman – Yes; Chair Gasbarro – Yes; so voted.

Approved the 20th day of July 2023.

**TRAFFIC SAFETY WORK GROUP
MAY 25, 2023 – 10:30 AM
REMOTE PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM**

List of documents used at the meeting:

- IV. 1. Email from Dani Petkova re: 10 York St yellow line; updated driveway location plans; aerial photos; Traffic Safety minutes of 4/15/2021; 2021 driveway location plan; Select Board minutes of 8/4/2021; Traffic Safety memo to Select Board dated 7/28/2021; Memo to DPW dated 8/5/2021
- IV. 2. Email from Howard Martin re: 2 Back St yellow line; photos; sketch plan; as-built plan; GIS photo and aerial
- IV. 3. Email from Mary Casey/Hospital Thrift Shop re: designated parking space at 17 India St; photos
- IV. 4. Email from Richard Farrell re: reestablishment of off-street parking space for 12 Gay St; GIS map; application for curb cut; aerial photo; site plan; photos
- IV. 5. Note from Michael Humphrey re: Surfside Rd/Miacomet Rd/Surfside Dr 4-way stop; crosswalk location on Surfside Rd near Bartlett Rd
- IV. 6. Email from MaryBeth Perkins re: crosswalk request at Low Beach Rd and Silver St; photos
- IV. 7. Select Board AIS re: Pedicabs; Ch. 316, Pedicabs; Pedicab Service Area map; NanTukTuk Business Overview; Portion of SB minutes 6/15/2011; Town Counsel opinions from 2011 re: pedicabs; portion of SB minutes 4/5/2023
- IV. 8. Email from Commission on Disability re: parking for Nantucket Community Sailing on Bathing Beach Rd; sample Nantucket Community Sailing parking pass
- VI. Draft minutes of 2/16/2023