



City of Racine

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Meeting Minutes - Final Traffic Commission

*Chairman Martin DeFatte, Alderman Gregory Holding, Commissioner Richard Jones, Atty.
Nicole Loop, Lt. James Dobbs, Charles French*

Monday, August 18, 2008

5:15 PM

City Hall, Room 301

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 P.M.

PRESENT: 4 - Nicole Loop, James Dobbs, Martin DeFatte and Charles French

EXCUSED: 2 - Gregory Holding and Richard Jones

Also Present: Tom Eeg (on behalf of Rick Jones), Alderman Kaplan, Barb Tylenda, Alex Aiello, Nikki Aiello, Aireiona, Jada, Annie Cheu, Wayne Clingman, Caitlin Clingman, Craig Stuhr

Approval of Minutes for the June 30, 2008 Meeting

*Motion made by Eeg, seconded by Dobbs to approve the minutes as printed.
Passed unanimously.*

to Approve the Minutes

New Business

1. [08-2321](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 8th District requesting installing crosswalks in the 1500 - 1700 Blocks of West 6th Street.

Nikki Aiello appeared before the Commission and requested crosswalks be put in on 6th Street. She noted the number of children in the area and the traffic generators across the street with the school, playground, and COP House. She distributed some accident reports for some pedestrian versus vehicle incidents and asked the Traffic Commission to consider putting in crosswalks.

John Rooney noted crosswalks are only put in approved locations by the MUTCD. He noted crosswalks are placed at signalized intersections and also on safe school walking routes that are uncontrolled intersections. He also noted crosswalks are placed where crossing guards are employed as well. He noted the intersection of Howland Avenue and W. 6th Street has a marked crosswalk for the crossing guard. He also noted that flashing beacon warning lights are also used at this crossing. He noted these are used to reduce vehicle speeds while the crossing guard is there crossing children during arrival and dismissal at school.

Lt. Dobbs noted several of the incidents with the pedestrians were the result of children running out between cars in mid-block. That made it very difficult for motorists to avoid the pedestrians.

John Rooney noted this is an urban environment where children live in close proximity to an arterial street, and noted that children should be taught by their

parents or siblings to cross at intersections, or if they have difficulty finding a gap in traffic, to walk down to an intersection that is signalized to get across the street.

Charlie French noted that we can't simply paint crosswalks in every location throughout the City because of requests.

John Rooney also noted items before the Traffic Commission in the past included enhanced crosswalk markings and in-street pedestrian signs that were not approved for funding by the Common Council.

Lt. Dobbs indicated he would put the speed trailer out at this location and report back to the Commission, and asked that this item be deferred.

John Rooney noted he would invite the neighbors on Sixth Street back to the meeting if they signed the signup sheet.

A motion was made by French, seconded by Loop to defer the item for the Racine Police Department study.

Deferred

2. [08-2472](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 4th District, submitting a petition on behalf of his constituents, requesting a 4-way stop sign be placed at the intersection of Hagerer St. and Green St.

Alderman Kaplan appeared before the Commission and noted that he believes Green Street is a shortcut from Yout to High Street. He indicated that no 15 mph signs exist anymore since St. John Nepomuk School closed. He suggested an all-ways stop or perhaps reversing the stop signs.

John Rooney noted this uncontrolled intersection had yield signs installed on the east and west approaches in 1964, and in 1970 the yield signs were changed to stop signs. He noted no accidents have occurred at this location and it is the intersection of two local streets with very low traffic volume. He indicated a study to do an all-way stop would certainly not meet the warrants. He also commented reversing a stop sign would only create confusion for drivers who are already very familiar with the intersection, which obviously led to zero accidents at this location.

Craig Stuhr appeared before the Commission and noted the speeding and drag-racing on Green Street, and running of the stop signs on Hagerer Street and indicated he would like to see something done in the area.

Lt. Dobbs suggested putting the speed trailer out on Green Street to see if there are any problems.

A motion was made by Loop, seconded by French to defer the item for the Racine Police Department study. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

3. [08-2501](#)

Subject: Communication from Barb Tylenda, Executive Director of Health Care Network, Inc., requesting to discuss parking restrictions in the 900 block of State Street.

Recommendation: Approve the request to change the limited term parking to 2 hour parking from 8:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. except

Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays on the north side of State Street from La Salle Street to Marquette Street

Fiscal Note: The estimated cost of this signage will result in an installation cost of \$200.00 and an annual maintenance cost of \$80.00.

Barb Tylenda appeared before the Commission and asked that the limited parking signs in front of her business in the 900 block of State Street be changed from 15 minute parking to 2 hour parking. She noted the 15 minute parking was there to accommodate a cell phone business at one time. She noted the cell phone business is no longer there and that most of the businesses' customers need more than 15 minutes to do business and asked the limited term be increased to 2 hours.

It was noted by Tom Eeg that the outside lane is also a parking lane, but there is a time of day restriction for parking on that from 3:30 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. and noted the limited-term parking could not extend past 3:30 P.M.

After further discussion, a motion was made by French, seconded by Loop to change the limited term parking to 2 hour parking from 8:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. except Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays on the north side of State Street from La Salle Street to Marquette Street. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Acceptance

4. [08-2566](#)

Subject: Recommends that Schedule G of Section 94-143 be amended to create "Two-hour parking from 8:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M., except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays."

Further recommends that this new section be amended to include "State Street, north side, from Marquette Street to Superior Street."

Recommended For Acceptance

Next Meeting Date

The next Traffic Commission meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2008 at 5:15 P.M. in Room 301 of City Hall.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 P.M.

If you are disabled and have accessibility needs or need information interpreted for you, please contact the Engineering Department, 636-9166, at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.