

SIoux FALLS SCHOOLS TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



PATH COMMITTEE MEETING

January 10, 2008

9:00 AM

City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room

I. CALL TO ORDER/ ATTENDANCE

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lt Jerome Miller, Galen Smidt, Craig Smith, Heath Hoftiezer, Dallas Hofer, Teresa Boysen, Brandi Kowalczyk, Kathy Nelson, Bill Smith, Debbie Hoffman, Karen Claycomb, Lisa Huemoeller, Hercules Campbell

MEMBERS ABSENT

Lisa Robison, Steve Natz, Jessica Armstrong, Cynthia Madigan, Diane Hall, Marilyn Buskohl

GUESTS PRESENT

Angela Olson, Larry Larsen

II. INTRODUCTIONS:

Larry Larsen was in attendance representing Discovery Elementary School concerns and Angela Olson with the SDDOT gave a presentation on the Safe Routes to School Program.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES

- The issue was brought forth of corrections under Public Input – items 1-4 raised by Twain Fink were in regards to Anne Sullivan, item 5 is in reference to John Harris. In speaking to Mr. Fink items i, ii, & v are in reference to John Harris, item iii in reference to Anne Sullivan. Mr. Fink indicated that he did not bring forth item iv – that should be under the section for Mr. Norgard.
- A motion was made by Teresa Boysen to approve the December minutes with the correction brought forth by Kathy Nelson; motion was seconded by Dallas Hofer. Motion passed unanimously.

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IV. PUBLIC INPUT

- **Guest Speaker - Angela Olson, SDDOT** – Angela provided the PATH committee with an overview of a Safe Routes to School program that the state has implemented. This program is new to South Dakota, however, is already in use in various cities throughout the United States. Angela explained some of the goals that the program is designed to achieve which include:
 - increasing the number of children who walk or bike to school within a one to two mile radius
 - reduce fear of violent crime within school routes
 - lowering the child obesity rate
 - increase child physical activity to the recommended sixty-minutes per day
 - decrease air pollution in order to decrease congestion around schools
 - increase community involvement
 - increase child self-esteem

There are five components to the program that a community must meet in order to be eligible for funding from the program; these include education, encouragement, enforcement, engineering, and evaluation. Angela is currently working on the design of a webpage that will be up and running in the near future and she will contact the PATH committee members when the site is ready for viewing. The instructions and documents needed to apply to the program will be available on this webpage.

- **Larry Larson, Discovery Elementary School** –
 - i. Parents have called requesting a Yield Sign at Tayberry and W Stoney Creek Intersection on the Stoney Creek portion. Parents have reported vehicles speeding through without slowing down. Traffic Engineering reports that Stoney Creek is a collector, therefore, Tayberry would be the signage street. Traffic Engineering also reports that Tayberry has been on their monitoring list for three years, with only one accident. The area will continue to be monitored and if changes occur that would meet the requirements of signage; those avenues will then be taken.

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- ii. West of Stoney Creek, there is a new development which students walk from to school. Some of those students walk through a field located there. Heath reports that he does live in that area and has been watching the children in that area. There is a portion which does not have sidewalk yet due to development not being completed. The children do walk on the sidewalk until they reach that portion and then, move to the road. Once the sidewalk picks back up, the children are failing to move back to the sidewalk. Due to lack of sidewalk in this area, PATH would not recommend this as a Safe Route. The Developer has began placing sidewalk, Traffic Engineering will speak with them to find what their timeline is with development and discuss the possibility of installing the sidewalk as soon as possible in order to meet the needs of the school children in the neighborhood.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Police Department
- City Engineering
 - i. *“State Law Yield to Pedestrians” Signage Trial*

At the December meeting we discussed doing a trial usage of mid-block “Yield to Pedestrians” signs. Prior to the Holiday City Engineering e-mailed to Committee Members examples of such signs. The cost of the signs is approximately \$400 per sign. The City will purchase one sign and the School Board will purchase a second. Recommendation is to review the three locations we have received the most complaints on which include Anne Sullivan, John Harris, and JFK, identify the two of those areas that show the most significant need and conduct before observations, place the signs, and conduct after observations in order to determine the effectiveness of the signs.
 - ii. At the December meeting, we briefly discussed the Chair and Vice-Chair positions that will need to be filled. Kathy will continue in the Chair position until her term ends in June, we will hold an election for said position in the spring prior to the usual break in meetings for summer. Currently, the Vice-Chair position is empty. It was decided that Teresa Boysen will fill the Vice-Chair position, however, does not wish to step into the Chair position upon the end of Kathy’s term.

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- iii. Positions that will need to be filled in this next year include Kathy's position for Public Schools Northeast as of July and Karen Claycomb's position for City PTA (open-ended, without a definitive end date).
- Private Schools - No unfinished business.
 - Public Schools – No unfinished business.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Police Department –
 - i. After the Holiday, Police Traffic worked five days in school zone, both morning and afternoon in school zones where they had been receiving complaints. Worked areas of Anne Sullivan, Horace Mann, Discovery, and all High Schools. Worst areas for speed issues were at the high schools. Another troublesome area was on Sycamore Avenue between 9th Street and 10th Street where individuals were driving a block or more in the center left turn lane to get around backed up traffic from the traffic signal. A total of sixty-two tickets were written for various violations.
- City Engineering N/A
- Private Schools N/A
- Public Schools:
 - i. South Dakota Safety Council has a program called “Alive at Twenty-five” which is a four and a half hour interactive classroom discussion concerning driving safety. Kathy will bring information back to the committee at the February meeting.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- Next Meeting – the decision was made to hold the next meeting on February 7th in lieu of the originally scheduled date of the 14th due to school not being in session on that date. **This meeting will be held at City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room due to lack of room availability at the IPC.**
- Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.