

City of Pacific Grove
Traffic Safety Commission
Minutes of Meeting – JUNE 10, 2008

Present: Shayne, Roehl, Terry, Garcia & Leinen
Staff: Chief Engles, Commander Nyunt (PD) & Celia P. Martinez (Public Works)
Others: Winston Elstob
Absent: 2 - vacant positions

The Traffic Commission meeting was recorded. Recordings are kept at the Police Department for review. Recordings are kept for a period of ninety days following the meeting.

1. **The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Shayne at 4:02 pm.**
2. **Oral Communications:**
None
3. **Minutes of meeting held April 8, 2008.**
MOTION was made by Carmelita Garcia and seconded by Henry Leinen to approve the minutes as written MOTION passed unanimously.
4. **Commission and Staff Announcements:**
Commissioner Garcia reported that the local commercial trucks that were parked in the parking lot adjacent to the Monterey Credit Union near the driveway exiting onto 15th Street have been repositioned in the lot to allow vehicles additional room to negotiate the turn from the lot on to 15th Street.

It was reported that the City has not yet sent a letter to TAMC appointing Henry Leinen as a member of the TAMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Advisory Committee and Jan Roehl as an alternate member. It was noted that the Commission had previously taken an action to approve of these appointments. (Note: Approval was given at the November 2007 meeting and the information has been forwarded to City Hall)
5. **Correspondence:**
None at this time
6. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. Forrest Hill Manor Construction – Update by Staff
Nothing to report at this time in regards to the on-going construction project. Chief Engles reported that someone painted a red curb on Sinex Avenue at the garages used by residents of Forest Hill Manor. (Sinex Avenue e/o Fountain Ave) It was noted that the curb had previously been painted red and staff agreed to let it remain but advised the management at Forest Hill Manor that in the future to contact the City and allow us make the determination of its necessity and to do the painting with our staff.
 - B. Pedestrian Awareness Month – The Commission will receive periodic updates as to Staff's progress in developing plans for a "Pedestrian Awareness Month" to promote safety in our City. – Update by Staff
Police Chief Darius Engles reported on the actions taken and other comments regarding the Pedestrian Awareness Program for the month of May 2008.
 1. The Chief considered the program a success.

2. The program cost approx \$5,000 to \$6,000 dollars with \$1,800 being donated by various organizations.
3. Approximately \$ 4,000 was spent on overtime for Officers during periods of traffic enforcement, 3 Officers per week, 4 to 6 hrs each, average.
4. The primary area targeted was Downtown Lighthouse Avenue but other areas in the City were also included in the program.
5. Approximations 20 citations were issued along with numerous warnings being given.
6. A Public Service Announcement was observed on Comcast during the entire month of May at no cost to the City.
7. The focus on enforcement was locals and not tourists, thus the reason for the month of May and not during the summer.
8. The Department received 3 unsolicited letters (appreciation for the program) and many other "thankyou's".
9. Chief Engles commented that the City's traffic enforcement could be greatly enhanced by the addition of two motorcycle officers.

Winston Elstob, resident was present and complimented the City for their efforts with the program. He also commented that pedestrians have difficulty crossing Pine Avenue and also crossing Central Avenue at the Library.

C. Receive an update from staff regarding the proposed reconfiguration of vehicle parking at Rip Van Winkle Park. (Continued from the April 8th meeting of the Traffic Safety Commission).

Celia P. Martinez, Public Works Superintendent, was present and commented on various aspects of the proposal. The main reason for these improvements is that access be provided for the existing fire access lanes at the main turn out adjacent to Congress Ave. In addition, drivers are damaging the tree roots in the parking areas with their vehicles. The following additional comments:

1. The target date for finishing the improvements is July, 2008.
2. The notice of improvements will be posted at the bulletin board at the park.
3. Because of the damage to tree roots as noted, parking adjacent to Congress Avenue will be converted to parallel.
4. White edge lines will be painted on Congress Ave in order that vehicles will park off of the pavement.
5. Pot holes will be fixed.
6. The existing no parking signs will be modified to provide more parallel parking.
7. Ample notice will be given to patrons using the park before citations are issued.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Staff has prepared a summary of traffic accidents on the streets and highways of Pacific Grove for the year 2007. This item is being submitted to members of the Traffic Safety Commission for their information.

Malcolm explained that the City's current Crossroads Collision Database utilizing SWITRS collision reports is not entirely accurate because it does not recognize private property accidents. Malcolm noted that he has been entering the information from the hard copies of the collision records in order to obtain a more accurate record of collision locations. A summary of collisions is being prepared for the last five years and information will be provided to the Commission as it becomes available.

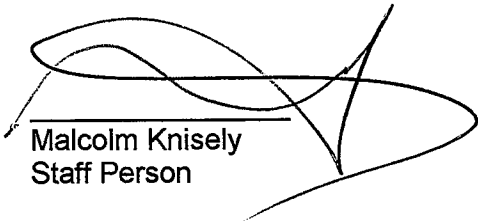
- B. The City of Pacific Grove has received an announcement that "Free Pedestrian Safety Assessments for California Communities" is being offered to agencies in California. The City of Pacific Grove is requesting that we be added to the list for this assessment. This item is submitted to the Traffic Safety Commission for information.

Malcolm explained that this assessment is being provided by the Institute of Transportation Studies, Technology Program, UC Berkeley and is funded by OTS. This program is similar to the previous study entitled "City of Pacific Grove, An Enforcement and Engineering Analysis of Traffic Safety Programs" sponsored by ITS in April 2000 for Pacific Grove. A discussion followed and the Commission supported the filing of an application requesting the pedestrian assessment

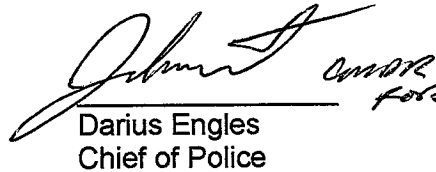
MOTION was made by Henry Leinen and seconded by Carmelita Garcia that approval be given to the Traffic Engineer to submit the application and request that the City of Pacific Grove be placed on the list for the Pedestrian Safety Assessment. MOTION passed unanimously.

8. **There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.**

The next meeting of the Traffic Safety Commission will be on Tuesday, July 8, 2008, 4:00 PM at the Pacific Grove Police Conference Room, 580 Pine Avenue, Pacific Grove.



Malcolm Knisely
Staff Person



Darius Engles
Chief of Police