

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM held via Zoom, by Alexander McDonald, Business Administrator.

Advisory Board Members Present: Sanjeev Vinayak, Deputy Mayor, Township Committee; Alexander McDonald, Business Administrator; Brian Gilfedder, Police Chief, Millburn Police; Mara Epstein, PTOC Safety Committee Co-Chair; Michael Palardy, (On behalf of Dr. Burton) Millburn School Superintendent; James Feins, Resident; Brian Sobelman, Resident

Also Present: Peter Smeraldo, Sgt., Millburn Police Traffic Bureau; Farah Kassim, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Christine Bugel, Assistant Township Engineer

Mr. McDonald invited Mr. Vinayak to introduce himself, Mr. Vinayak who is the new liaison from the Township Committee serving on the Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board. Mr. Vinayak suggested meetings that are more frequent.

Board business:

1. Approve December 8, 2022, PSAB Minutes

Mr. McDonald asked for a motion to approve the last meeting minutes. Ms. Epstein made a motion to approve the December 8, 2022 meeting minutes; Chief Gilfedder seconded the motion.

Vote: All Ayes. Mr. Vinayak abstained.

2. Discuss 2023 Meeting Dates and Times

A discussion resulted to solidify the dates and times for the Board to meet in 2023, the decision is as follows:

The group will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month with the exception of summer months when schools are closed.

3. National Bike to School Day

Ms. Epstein asked if the Township would be sponsoring the Poster Contest this year, to which Mr. McDonald said yes. Ms. Epstein mentioned there would be two (2) changes this year, firstly inviting the PTOC to vote and secondly, 1-time voting as opposed to multiple rounds of voting. Ms. Epstein to adjust the fliers and send them over to Mr. McDonald for publicizing.

Mr. McDonald suggested that the group think about ideas to educate pedestrians/drivers and bring those ideas to the March meeting.

Old Business:

Reports:

Committee Member - Deputy Mayor Sanjeev Vinayak had no report but suggested to the group to think about rewarding residents when they submit an idea that was implemented.

Business Administrator Report - Alexander McDonald

Mr. McDonald gave Ms. Bugel's report in her absence.

Engineer's Report

1. Safety improvements were made at the intersection of Lackawanna and Essex Street. The traffic signal timing was changed to add a lead pedestrian interval. The Township provided the traffic study and proposed timing plan and Essex County assisted by programming the controller.
2. Safety improvements were made to the crosswalk on White Oak Ridge Road at the intersection with Addison drive to add rectangular rapid flashing beacons. Mr. McDonald added that while pedestrian-activated signals are costly, the plan is to budget for more taking into consideration those intersections where there are no crossing guards, especially around the schools.
3. A public information session was held on 10/26/22 to review proposed improvements to the Short Hills Train Station. The Township collected valuable public feedback, which will be used to further refine the proposal for pedestrian safety improvement at the train station. Mr. McDonald suggested Ms. Bugel can provide us with the retooling of the design at the next meeting for discussion and mentioned that the group may want to think about this project, and if they would like to make recommendations to the Township Committee to allocate funding.
4. The next step in the safe routes to schools project is for NJDOT to schedule a design kick-off meeting with the Township. The design kick-off meeting is required in order for the Township to participate in the design assistance program, which provides funding to the Township to work with a design professional to prepare construction plans for our project.

Police Chief - Brian Gilfedder reported on several speed studies that were done on Willow Street, Chatman Road and Baltusrol Way, Chief Gilfedder noted that they are going to take a closer look at Baltusrol Way since the speed study showed that there is speeding there. Sgt. Smeraldo added 25 mph signs were put up on Chatman Road after a complaint was received from a resident. There was an issue with the Pedestrian activated signal on Wyoming and Millburn; Sgt. Smeraldo will reach out to the County to rectify this.

Michael Palardy, (On behalf of Dr. Burton) Millburn School Superintendent informed the Board of the upcoming 5th Annual Dog March to be held on March 5 on Brookside Drive. Mr. Palardy gave an update on the removal of the fence on Rector Street; there is now a crosswalk for pedestrians to use. Mr. Palardy mentioned a leaning pole, which he said he reported to both Bell, JCP&L, Mr. McDonald asked for the pole number, and Mr. Palardy will forward him the information so he can look into it further.

PTOC Report - Ms. Epstein followed up on the following items:

- Expected completion of Traffic light signal on White Oak Ridge Road: Mr. McDonald confirmed scheduled completion in May.
- Extra signage - Hartshorn: Sgt. Smeraldo confirmed there were installed in December.
- Wyoming - requested a light to be installed like the one at Deerfield, Ms. Epstein asked if the Township would pay for it/support putting a light in these locations: Mr. McDonald said it should not be problematic as long as the residents give their approval. Ms. Epstein said that PTOC will reach out to the residents to get their approval. Mr. Sobelman to send a photo of another pole with the pole number to Ms. Epstein.
- Corner of Myrtle & Pine, pg. 3 of the Memo that was sent out: Sgt. Smeraldo suggested Ms. Epstein get specifics and get back to him and Ms. Bugel.
- Wyoming and Pine - no crosswalk: Sgt. Smeraldo will reach out to the County. Mr. McDonald added to keep in mind there is a crossing guard at the next intersection, and children/pedestrians should be directed to where the crossing guard is stationed.
- Deerfield, corner of Silver Spring and Troy can this be a part of the grant program for curb cuts. Mr. McDonald confirmed that this intersection is on the running list Ms. Bugel is keeping.
- Crossing Guard Contract - would like a draft, to review both the location and timing at some locations, Ms. Epstein to send over a list of those locations to Mr. McDonald.
- Woodland & Chatman Road Construction - Mr. McDonald will resend the plans they shared to the group and for the Glenwood School as well.
- Crosswalk at Middle school - Mr. McDonald will ask Ms. Bugel to provide a timeline.

Resident's Report

Mr. Sokop inquired if there were any updates on the Flags; Mr. McDonald responded that he passed the information on to Jim McKenna. Mr. McDonald suggested he coordinate with DPW and follow up with them. Mr. Vinayak suggested making a list of suggestions for stripping crosswalks, Mr. McDonald agreed.

Public Comments:

Rajesh Ramadoss: Suggestions:

- to be able to sign up by email for the PSAB meetings
- Better lights throughout Millburn
- Remove the pedestrian-activated signal at Wyoming and Millburn Avenue. Sgt. Smeraldo confirmed he would speak with The County.

Mr. McDonald will send out meeting dates for the rest of the year and ensure the information is posted on the website.

Mr. McDonald asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Palardy made a motion.

Vote: All Ayes

Next meeting: TBD