

**MINUTES
TRAFFIC AND SAFETY BOARD**

7:00 PM

Thursday

September 17, 2009

Chairperson Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

ROLL CALL: Leppanen, Reynolds, Chiara, McGowan and DeCorte (ex-officio)

ABSENT: Mehas, Nebus (ex-officio)

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

A motion was made by McGowan, seconded by Chiara, to accept the minutes of the August 20, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Our Lady of Sorrows School-Dismissal Plan

By way of background, Director Nebus and Mr. DeCorte were asked by the school to advise them on traffic control issues at drop-off and pick-up times. Director Nebus and Mr. DeCorte visited the school last May in order to study the traffic patterns and congestion. They also spoke to representatives of the school and church. As a result of those discussions, a plan was developed that would allow for the orderly pick-up and drop-off of students within the west parking lot of the school, thereby minimizing traffic tie-ups on Raphael and Shiawassee. The plan was communicated to the school families before start of classes this fall, and implemented. Mr. DeCorte attended Curriculum Night this past September 8 to talk to the parents about the plan. Although it was well received, a couple of parents disputed it and advised that they would not comply. Mr. DeCorte visited the school during peak times and the plan was working well.

Mr. McGowan, whose son attends the school, then produced two (2) letters that had been sent to school families. One letter, dated September 10, 2009, advised parents of the pick-up/drop-off plan as developed by Nebus/DeCorte in their discussions with the school last spring. However, Mr. McGowan then produced a second letter, announcing that effective Wednesday, September 16, the pick-up/drop-off plan would be changed. The change essentially disregards the Nebus/DeCorte plan and reverts to the plan that existed before they were asked for their input. That plan resulted in back-ups on Raphael and Shiawassee.

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The Board discussed that since the school was private property, they were not obligated to following the advice of Director Nebus and Mr. DeCorte. However, Raphael and Shiawassee are public streets and the public safety department will be obligated to keep traffic moving. The situation will continue to be monitored during peak problem times, basically, 9:00 AM (+/-) and 4:00 PM (+/-) with enforcement as necessary.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Mr. DeCorte advised that the low level signal at the northeast corner of Farmington Road and Freedom is scheduled to be installed this month (September/October.)

Mr. De Corte also referenced the new crosswalk on Farmington Road, south of Grand River. It is currently marked with a tent sign positioned on the center line. Once the road work is completed, the RCOC will install permanent signs and the tent sign will have to be removed. Whereas MDOT allows the tent signs on Grand River, which is under MDOT jurisdiction, the RCOC will not allow them on Farmington Road which is under RCOC jurisdiction.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2009

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Chiara and seconded by McGowan to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting concluded at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane Reynolds
Chairperson