

ASTORIA TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Astoria City Hall
July 28, 2015

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice President Innes called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: President David Pearson was excused. Vice President McLaren Innes, Kent Easom, Sean Fitzpatrick, Daryl Moore, Jan Mitchell and Frank Spence

Staff Present: Interim Planner Mike Morgan, Community Development Director Kevin Cronin, City Attorney Blair Henningsgaard, City Engineer, Jeff Harrington, Engineering Technician Steve Ruggles and Police Sgt. Brian Aydt.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Vice President Innes called for approval of the April 28, 2015. There were no changes and the minutes were approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item 4(a): Update on Traffic Safety Related Items

City Engineer Harrington gave a traffic safety update that included the following items:

- The City is posting information on the website for pedestrian, bicycle, and traffic safety. He explained how to access the website by going to the City of Astoria website at the police department link. At the top of the page there will be FAQ's. Push the link and scroll down to last FAQ link for traffic safety. This will show the information discussed at the last meeting. This site is different than the Facebook page; this information will be on this site permanently whereas the Facebook page will focus on current events.
- Discussed traffic volumes on state routes through town and handing out a graph of traffic volumes for the 10-year time period between 2003 and 2013. This is the latest information available from ODOT. The traffic is down over this period of time. As updated information becomes available we will compile that data and bring to the committee. We suspect that the volumes this year will be higher.
- Discussed the Coast Guard housing traffic safety plan, how the City is working with their people to get this to work. He talked about installing the speed bumps, and educational information sent out multiple times. Starting the traffic education in school is the way to make change for the future.
- Discussed parking situation at 3rd and bond as requested by Commissioner Mitchell. The topography of the intersection approaching from the north (or downhill) direction makes it difficult to see through the parked cars. Parking in that area would have to be removed at least four spaces to the east and three spaces to the west to make a difference. Commissioner Mitchell explained that is what she was requesting was not removing parking since it would cause other problems where the vehicles moved to, but looking into putting a compact only sign at the corners. Engineer Harrington said he would investigate this possibility.

Police Sargent Brian Aydt informed the commission there was going to be two pedestrian safety enforcements; the first will be July 28, 2015. He explained the process of how the program works, mentioning that due to high traffic volumes on the New Young's Bay bridge, ODOT has hired Classic Towing to have a tow truck on standby

at the entrance on Fridays from 12:00 until 6:00 p.m. for the remainder of the summer season to assist with quick removal of vehicles involved in crashes or that have broken down. This is an effort to try and relieve traffic congestion that occurs when one or both lanes of the bridge are blocked.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS/COMMISSIONERS: No reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to convene the Planning Commission Meeting at 7:02 pm.

ATTEST:


Secretary

APPROVED:


Engineer