

SIoux FALLS SChOOLS TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



PATH COMMITTEE MEETING

March 13, 2014

8:30 a.m.

IPC Conference Rooms 1 & 2

I. CALL TO ORDER/ ATTENDANCE

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sharon Chontos, Heath Hoftiezer, Kent Alberty, Brandi Kowalczyk, Michelle Wolf, Teresa Boysen, Lt. Jerome Miller, Keith Gries, Todd Vik, Marilyn Buskohl, Lisa Lewis-Huemoeller, Nick Ritter, Troy Miller, Troy Lubbers, Robert Draeger, Rachel Oelmann

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kerry Larson, Karen Nash-Claycomb, Susan Foster, Diane Hall

II. INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/DISCUSSION

Rachel Oelmann - All City Elementary, replacing Sharon Chontos, Lt. Troy Lubbers – Sioux Police Department replacing Lt. Jerome Miller. This is the last meeting for Lt. Jerome Miller, he will be retiring next month and has served 11 years on the PATH Committee. Troy Miller – Traffic Engineer with the City of Sioux Falls, Randall Brink will be replacing Keith Gries who was promoted to Lieutenant.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Chontos called to approve the January 2014 Minutes. Michelle Wolf motioned to approve, and motion was seconded by Keith Gries. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- *Police Department:* No report.
- *City Engineering:* No report.
- *Private Schools:* No report.
- *Public Schools:* Kent Alberty was not sure if Rosa Parks is Unfinished or New Business, but Rosa Parks comes up at every meeting. Student was hit by a car, but not seriously injured. What steps can we take to make sure that something really

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serious doesn't happen? People drive very fast through Red Oak, but not so much in the loop where it happened. For both Public and Private schools we need to keep educating and re-educating parents as well as the public on a continuous basis. When SRO's are there everything runs smooth, but when they aren't, it doesn't. Some suggestions were to have parents approach other parents that weren't following the rules, Staff needs to inform parents who are not following the rules, Adult Crossing Guards and staggered times for different grades. However, you never know how parent will react, who will assume the responsibility of the Adult Crossing Guard for the hiring, firing, and supervising and finding enough qualified people to do it. If they don't show up then a uniform officer has to be pulled to be there. Sioux Falls Christian does stagger their grades, but some parents have more than one child in that school. Kids usually know where they are supposed to cross and what to do; it is the parents that don't always follow the rules. There is a Grant through KELO which is a 30 second spot; we would have to come up with actors to portray a message. Deadline has passed for this year. Action would be for Marilyn will check with KELO and she and Sharon will work on Grant for next year. Would like to do at the beginning of school year and around Christmas to remind people.

Officers can't be at every school. The loudest complaints come from Rosa Parks and Cleveland Elementary so they are concentrating on them.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- *Police Department:* Rosa Parks – but brought up in Unfinished Business, child actually ran in between two cars and ran into car. Officers were out there when it happened, so it shows you can have an officer on one block and something happen on the other. Making sure children don't cut between blocks and parents aware of what is going on around them, and slow down to 5 just because it is 15 doesn't mean you have to go 15. Issues at Cleveland Elementary, double parking and parking complaints, officers at both of them. These two schools that have the most complaints and that takes up all of our officers when they are concentrating on those two schools. Comes down to again educating parents and kids.
- *City Engineering:*
 - 1) 26th and 4th Avenue by St. Mary's has been receiving several complaints regarding the green light on 4th Avenue, it isn't yielding for pedestrians. We can put in a 4 second lead pedestrian when they press the walk button. Walk will come up four seconds before the pedestrian green light would come. Something we thought we could consider for this intersection. Brought up to see if the PATH Committee would concur on the decision. We have been doing it at other locations we have had issues. It is a simple fix. This is something we have always brought up to the committee every time we have done it.
 - 2) John Harris Elementary School -There has been a change in area, Prince of

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Peace Retirement Home to the southwest of the Catholic School and John Harris has changed their driveway location, which changed how traffic is flowing in and out of their campus. Most of their traffic is taking Laura Oak Drive. We have received communication from numerous parents and had previously discussed to make a cross walk at Laura Oaks and Brad Street, but a cross walk couldn't be seen from the school grounds. Asking committee to add a cross walk at that intersection. It is a long way from school and wouldn't put a patrol, but make awareness of crosswalk with signage. A motion was made to make Brad Street and Laura Oaks a Cross walk brought to the committee by Heath Hoftiezer. Chontos called to approve, motion to pass by Lisa Lewis-Huemoeller, seconded by Teresa Boysen. Motion passed unanimously.

- 3) Discovery Elementary School – communication from parents at 22nd and Montpelier Avenue about the sight distance. Teacher's park alongside 22nd street quit heavily. Petitions did go through neighborhood and like that teachers are parking there. If they move the one No Parking sign 20 feet back it will make a big difference. This comes up every year. Parents are working with the property owner to adjust the parking slightly. Montpelier can't see traffic on 22nd Street. There is not a crosswalk, and some kids cross there between cars. There is also construction going on the North side of Memorial. Have talked to the Principal about it in the past. Heath will talk to Lois again. Still want to allow teachers to park there. Should cross walk be moved? Ronning is developing out there and more streets to the west. Added a cross walk at 22nd and Discovery to the north and there is another one at Hide Park. There is an all way stop at 22nd and Discovery. Police has some concerns about speeding along Discovery. When flashing lights are there they behave, sometimes. Has been on the complaint zone, try to hit as often as they can. Officer is sitting there not a problem, but when they aren't they speed. Sertoma is 40 that was main issues that officer had so many kids walk in that area. Is there any way to lower to 30 or 35? Road is designed for 40, best access management in the entire city. Pedestrians are good about crossing at signals.
- 4) Heath handed out minutes from December 2011 meeting regarding By-law changes we wanted to make. The ones that are published on the website are not the actual by-laws. When we were looking at the By-Laws that is when we discovered the committee did not have the authority to change the By-Laws it has to go through city council. Last five by-law changes have not gone through City Council. Referenced back to by-laws from the mid 80's. Heath will have to search for an actual copy of our By-Laws. A lot of ideas we proposed were rejected, now it sounds like the Mayor is open to us making changes and committee structure. Wanted to bring back minutes from By-Law changes and what we wanted to do. Term limits are only two years because of that technically Rachel is the only parent member that is not term limited out. Everyone has been able to serve until filled. What we proposed in December of 2011 is that still the direction we want to go with them? Brandi asked about term limits, is it okay, they

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have allowed us to for now; they want us to come up with new term limits. We may actually have to dissolve and reestablished the committee. If you wanted to start all over you could and to four year term limits. In 2011 we thought we changed it to four year limits, but hadn't. For Rachel when it went through council it said four year. The By-Laws are not technically accurate.

1) Should we pull PTA Position out of 11 organizations?

2) Membership from Harrisburg/ Brandon, or do we not do that. They are in our city limits. And we have representatives in the city and they can come speak. Susan Foster from Brandon only comes if she has an issue.

3) Term Limits since they are for four year do you think that is why it is so hard to fill the position? Maybe have three or four two year terms? Two years terms doesn't seem so overwhelming is four. Two years is so short you get continuity with four years. Harrisburg/Brandon Principal allowed to pick someone they just picked their Principal. Harrisburg hasn't been a regular, Mike Munske is their representative. Heath has had several conversations with him, just works out he is not able to make it to the meetings. Something we have done in the past, options for Susan or Mike if unable to attend if they have an issue they have input on open to having them call in. The last four people that expressed a big desire to on committee and sent information to them they lived on acreage 200 feet out of the city limits. Last by-Law changes said they need to be in city. Now Mayor is open to the idea that people just outside of the city limits that have a vested interests and can represent. Technically 1980 By-Laws every indefinite applicant member that lives outside the city of Sioux Falls is allowed to be on the committee. If your child attends a school you have a vested interest.

4) Heath will work on Term Limit and By-Laws, and send out to members after he submits to city attorneys. After everyone approves the changes it will go through council, probably sometime this summer. Heath will attend the Council Meeting, but if anyone else wants to come they can. Heath doesn't think it will be an issue passing. Maybe dissolving and reestablish the committee is what we need to do that to be allowed to change By-laws.

5) Seven changes based on By-Laws that are on the City website. 1. Taking off the city PTA Position. 2. Instead of Harrisburg and Brandon School Board, change to Representative. 3. Three or four two year term limits. 4. People outside of city of Sioux Falls limits would be eligible on committee. 5. Ability to make our own By-Law changes instead of having to go through City Council. 6. Changing from eight to six parent members. 7. 17 members would be 16 because of the PTA. Action item is Heath is going to revise by-laws and send them to us and then once we approve them we will take them to city council.

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5) *Private Schools:*

- 1) Heath stated once the snow melts the dirt will be pulled back to the sidewalk by O’Gorman.

6) *Public Schools:*

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

IVII. ADJOURNMENT

Chontos called to approve, motion was made by Jerome Miller to adjourn and seconded by Lisa Lewis-Huemoeller. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be held May 1, 2014, at the IPC Building located at 201 East 38th Street at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 AM.