

URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Tuesday, March 3, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Bily, Chief of Police
Joe Smith, Senior Civil Engineer

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dennis Roberts, City Council Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

Zoë Capps, 803 South Cottage Grove Avenue
Maria Capps, 803 South Cottage Grove Avenue
Adeline Capps, 803 South Cottage Grove Avenue
Charles Ball, 308 South Lynn Street
Antonio Burnett, 1905 North Lincoln Avenue

The meeting began at 4:03 p.m.

Additions to the agenda:

There were no additions to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes:

Joe Smith moved to approve the minutes as read. Mike Bily seconded the motion. The Commission voted 2-0 to approve the minutes of the December 2008 meeting.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Item #1- Discussion of parking restrictions on Lynn Street at High Street.

Mike Bily stated that notices of the meeting were sent to the property owners and tenants in the 300 block of South Lynn Street.

Joe Smith stated that Ms. Beverly Anderson from 305 South Lynn Street contacted him and she expressed her opinion that no changes be made to the parking. Mr. Smith said that he urged Ms. Anderson to talk to her landlord to ask him to repair the driveway at 305 South Lynn Street so she would be able to use her driveway.

Chief Bily moved that no further action be taken. Joe Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Item #2- Discussion of traffic flow on Cottage Grove Avenue between Washington Street and Philo Road.

Joe Smith stated that the Engineering Division had looked at the traffic flow on Cottage Grove Avenue and that there was not any specific signage that would discourage southbound traffic from using Cottage Grove Avenue to avoid the stop sign at Philo Road and Washington Street. He mentioned that “No Through Street” and “No Outlet” signage would be used to designate a dead end, which Cottage Grove Avenue was not.

Maria Capps asked if the street could be closed.

Mr. Smith stated that the City would be reluctant to close the street as it would make snow removal in that area more difficult.

Ms. Capps asked if additional streetlighting would be possible to illuminate the intersection.

Mr. Smith said that he would discuss possible solutions with the Public Works Director. He added that the City was looking at different options for the intersection of Philo Road and Washington Street, which might discourage the use of Cottage Grove Avenue as a way to avoid the Philo Road/Washington Street intersection.

Maria Capps asked if there was any type of signage that might be used to keep motorists from speeding down Cottage Grove Avenue.

Joe Smith suggested adding a warning sign to indicate that there was a curve with a minor side street to the right.

Ms. Capps asked if the speed trailer might help slow traffic.

Mike Bily stated that the speed trailer might have a short-term effect, but that it would be difficult to place the trailer in a location to slow traffic since it was such a short stretch of street before coming to a stop sign. He said that they may try to place it on Philo Road to see if it did have any effect. Chief Bily summarized that the City would look at possible lighting and signage options for the area and use the speed trailer to inform motorists of the speed limit.

No further action was taken.

Item #3- Discussion of parking restrictions in the 400 block of North Gregory Street, south of the parking meter zone.

Joe Smith discussed a request from the City of Urbana’s Finance Department asking that parking be eliminated south of the metered spaces on Gregory Street to improve visibility along the street.

Joe Smith moved to restrict parking from the alley to Clark Street on the east side of Gregory Street.

Mike Bily seconded the motion.

The motion passed 2-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

The meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

The next meeting will be held April 7, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. at the Urbana City Building, 400 South Vine Street, second floor conference room.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Stiehl
Recording Secretary