

Village of Lombard

*Village Hall
255 East Wilson Ave.
Lombard, IL 60148
villageoflombard.org*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 7, 2011

7:00 PM

Village Hall Community Room

Transportation & Safety Committee

*Trustee Zach Wilson - Chairperson
Trustee Peter Breen - Alternate Chairperson
Nancy Sherretz, Robert Difino, John Schwarz,
Bob Corbino, Jerry Schaefer and Gerri Kuehl
Staff Liaisons: Deputy Chief Pat Rollins - Police and Frank Kalisik and John Johnson -
Public Works*

1.0 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Giagnorio at 7:00 p.m.

2.0 Roll Call

Present: Keith Giagnorio, John Schwarz, Robert Difino, Nancy Sherretz, Jean Nolan, Gerri Kuehl, Jerry Shaefer, Ken Snead and Bob Corbino

Others Present:

*William Ware, District 6 Trustee
Ray Byrne, Police Chief
Frank Kalisik, Civil Engineer
John Johnson, Technical Services Supervisor*

3.0 Public Participation

*Terry Kalkanian, 723 S. Charlotte Street
Rick Deleon, 709 S. Charlotte Street
Bob Biddle, 821 S. Charlotte Street*

4.0 Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Snead, seconded by Sherretz, to approve the Minutes of the January 3, 2011, meeting. The motion carried by a voice vote

5.0 Unfinished Business

6.0 New Business

Chairperson Giagnorio rearranged the agenda to accommodate the residents in attendance. Item 110089 was moved from Other Business to New Business to follow item 110083.

110083

Charlotte Street

Request to modify existing parking restrictions. (DISTRICT #5 & #6)

Kalisik reviewed the item.

Kalkanian, 723 S Charlotte

Mr. Kalkanian stated that he loves the street the way it is. When he was purchasing a house, he passed up other houses because Charlotte is a beautiful wide street. He has lived there over 20 years. He explained that he went to the neighbors and got responses from them. The resident at 729 came up with an idea of signing it No Parking from 8 a.m.-10 a.m. or 11:00 a.m., that way kids can't park there, but it wouldn't be a problem for people living there. There are only 3-4 cars that are the problem, that park

right at the corner. After the snow in February the snow was so high they didn't want to hug the curb, so they were parking a good 2-3' away from the curb on either side and that was probably the main problem. The road width was reduced by 6-7' because of the snow. Today you could easily fit a Sherman tank through there. Mr. Kalkanian went on to explain that his wife grew up on Princeton in Villa Park. It's a narrower street and you can only park on one side, but coming out of the driveway you still have to do a 15-point turn. No matter what time it is, there's always a car parked across the street. He asked that the Committee thought it over more or look at the situation in nicer weather. He reiterated that he would like the parking to be left as is. Mr. Kalkanian also thanked Frank Kalisik for looking into it and taking the time to investigate instead of just installing No Parking.

Rick Deleon,

Mr. Deleon stated that he has lived there 32 years. In 32 years there hasn't been a problem. Now we have one snow and it's a catastrophe. When the snow plow came there was one pass made down the middle. He explained that he went through there tonight and there's 2 cars parked across from each other and he got through there no problem. It is high school kids. Mr. Deleon said that he stopped and talked to one of the kids today and asked him to park on the other side of the street and he said sure. Before we go installing signs all over the neighborhood we should talk to these kids. They are willing to move their car. We're telling the high school kids, who are Lombard residents too, that they can't park on the street. Someone should go look at it without the snow.

Bob Biddle, 821 S Charlotte

The idea is to stop parking on the north west corner in the first 100'. It's from the corner of Harrison to the first driveway. When the car is parked there and the school bus is there, there are problems. There needs to be 30' of no parking from 7 a.m.-9 a.m. On the 800 block the no parking signs are not enforced. He explained that it was not his intention for there to be no parking on the entire block.

Schaefer commented that there are multiple issues. It was snow related and an isolated incident and we are perhaps going too far with signage. He was more concerned about the bus going down Charlotte, he felt that they should be going down the east-west street.

Kalisik explained that in the area bounded by Madison, Roosevelt, Finley and Grace, this committee can just make a recommendation to sign no parking during school days.

Mr. Deleon interjected that he has grand kids and wants them to be able to park there.

Difino asked if there is any problem with parking with school activities in the evening. The residents said there was not.

Sherretz pointed out that if the parking between Wilson and Harrison is not as the signs are posted, if it were posted on only one side of the street they would park closer towards Wilson. Sherretz suggested that the ordinance should be corrected.

As part of the motion the Committee directed staff to revisit the intersection and determine the exact limits of the needed no parking that the residents are referring to and to eliminate from the Code No Parking at anytime on the east side of Charlotte from Wilson to Morningside.

It was moved by Schwarz, seconded by Kuehl, that this matter be recommended to the Board of Trustees for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote

110089**Hammerschmidt School Traffic Concerns**

Kalisik reviewed the item and made comment on the specific items.

Crosswalks/stop signs - The committee has historically looked at stop signs needing a warrant. Installing stop signs that do not meet MUTCD warrants is not recommended. Staff does not have data on warrants at this time. Staff recommends to keep an eye on it.

One-way traffic - Could look at it as an option. Staff would have to poll the effected residents and talk to the school. Staff is looking for direction from the committee.

Restricted parking on one side of the road - If the roads are a sufficient width there should be no reason to.

Staff has no recommendations at this time other than to continue to work with the school. Staff is currently working with the school on crossing kids north of Madison.

Schaefer asked if staff has considered an across the board plan for the schools. Kalisik explained that not one shoe fits all sizes. Schaefer added that the idea of a circular pattern makes a lot of sense. He realizes that nobody wants to have their child walk very far, but they need to just park in the next open spot and walk to get their child. It needs to be done in a safe manner. Maybe it's aggressive to look at the entire village. Difino asked if there is anything in the Safe Routes to School that gives a template. Johnson replied that there is not a set pattern because each school changes over time. A school may not have school buses one year, but have them the next. The plan would be changed each time. It also depends on parents, location and how much room there is. Every school is very different and we address their issues as they come up and we accommodate as much as we can. Chairperson Giagnorio pointed out that at Hammerschmidt the different grades are dropped off on different sides. Johnson agreed and pointed out that most parents have a designated spot to pick up their child. There are parents that park north of Madison and walk their child the rest of the way. The school also has the lunch monitors cross the kids for the parents that park northbound on Stewart. Trustee Ware added that he lives on Stewart. All of the cars head south and from 8:00 a.m.-8:15 a.m. it's busy, however, the residents are used to it. There are probably 30-40 cars. Schwarz asked if anyone from the school has approached staff about problems. Kalisik answered that he has been working with the PTO regarding pedestrian crossings. In those discussions this has not come up.

Mr. Biddle said that he has talked to Mr. Danielski, however, it comes down to you can't regulate the stupidity of the driver. The reason so many kids are driven is because of the gridlock. You can't have children walking to school with all that traffic. He went on to say that he knows that stop signs don't fix the problem, but increased enforcement will help. When there is a cop there, he sits in his car. He also thinks that a circular route would fix the problem. Even putting in striping and pedestrian crossing signs would help. Mr. Biddle added that he is amazed there has not been a tragedy with the amount of traffic in that area. Tougher enforcement would make it better, but the circular route would really improve it. Difino pointed out that even if you go with a one-way circular pattern, those parents dropping off on Hammerschmidt instead of going in the driveway are still going to do that. The school has some responsibility to watch this too. Mr. Biddle added that another part of the problem is that it's drop and go, but you have parents that sit there and wait for their kid to go into the building. Chairperson Giagnorio asked Kalisik to talk to the principal. Mr. Biddle added that the no left turn needs to be enforced.

110084**300 S. Westmore-Meyers Road**

A request to modify existing parking restrictions for the two most northern spots from No Parking to 10-Minute Parking. (DISTRICT #5)

Kalisik reviewed the item. Nolan asked where the employees park. Kalisik answered that some park in the County parking lot for the Illinois Prairie Path. A lot of the employees use that as well as Division Street. However, it's full a lot of the time. There were four vehicles out there which seemed to be abandoned or did not have right the licensing, so staff called the Sheriff's Department. Parking is competitive.

It was moved by Shaefer, seconded by Kuehl, that this matter be recommended to the Board of Trustees for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote

110087**Pleasant Lane School, Berkshire Avenue**

A request to prohibit parking on the north side of Berkshire Avenue between Charlotte and Garfield Streets. (DISTRICT #4)

Kalisik reviewed the item. Schwarz agreed that it does make sense to issue no parking on north side of Berkshire so parents aren't dropping off children on the north side of street. General discussion ensued regarding changing Berkshire from Main to Garfield to one-way eastbound. Schwarz suggested trying the no parking and see how it works out. Leave as two-way traffic for now.

It was moved by Schwarz, seconded by Shaefer, that this matter be recommended to the Board of Trustees for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote

7.0 Other Business

110088**W. Wilson Avenue Parking Restrictions**

Chairperson Giagnorio reviewed the item. Difino commented that he is assuming that the School District is going to say they need those spots. They'll say their faculty and staff park there. Chairperson Giagnorio explained that the school charges for parking in the Sunset Knoll lot. It started out at \$100 for the semester, they dropped the fee to \$50 because they only had three spots sold. That lot was a joint venture between the Park District, School District and the Village. He commented that he doesn't know why the School District would have entered into that agreement if they weren't going to utilize the lot. Schaefer asked how the main school parking lot rates compare to the Sunset Knoll. He suggested that perhaps they could waive the fees to get them parking over there. Chairperson Giagnorio clarified that the fees are the School's; the Park District and Village don't receive any money.

Chairperson Giagnorio added that he thinks Wilson is one of the most dangerous strips of road in town. You bring one of the bigger plow blades down there in the winter, if someone opened a car door it would be taken off. Sherretz added that depending on what time you go drive through there all of the students are standing around talking, in between cars and street side. Sherretz further commented that it's not just school, it's also sports on weekends.

Sherretz asked if the students that park on Wilson are required to have a permit. Chairperson Giagnorio answered that they do not and he told the administrators that it

basically encourages the students to park there. They jockey for position, so there's kids sleeping in cars out there because they arrive so early to get a spot. Difino suggested that for the money they're getting for the permits the school should use a Ram van to shuttle the kids from the Sunset Knoll parking lot. Chairperson Giagnorio commented that we used taxpayer money to build this parking lot that is just sitting there empty. Sherretz suggested that if they had to pay for a parking permit to park on the street maybe they would use the lot instead. Schaefer suggested that we see if Glenbard East would waive fees to get the kids in there. Sherretz added or reduce them.

8.0 Information Only

9.0 Adjournment

It was moved by Difino, seconded by Nolan, to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. The motion carried by a voice vote