

**CITY OF GENEVA  
SPEED CONTROL POLICY TASK FORCE  
MARCH 27, 2019 MINUTES**

PRESENT: City Administrator Stephanie Dawkins, Police Chief Eric Passarelli, Asst. Dir. of Public Works Brian Schiber, Timothy Moran, Randal Newkirk, Aimee Spring, Betty Collins, Timothy Keske, Mary Beth Guzzo, Rory McCann, Paula Krapf

ABSENT: Lorraine Ochsner, Samantha Malusky, Joseph Heger

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Krapf called the meeting to order at 7pm. Roll call was taken.

**2. Approve Minutes from March 20, 2019**

Moved by Moran, seconded by Newkirk      Approved by unanimous voice vote.

**3. Overview of Committee procedures: Checking & responding to emails, quorum requirements, Open Meetings Act reminder**

Krapf made brief remarks on these topics and reminded the members to adhere to them. Members of the public Jay and Laurie Moffat, Eagle Brook residents, were present and stated their belief that the current speed standards seemed appropriate and were not convinced the system was broken.

Discussion on what the task force would present to the Committee of the Whole was heard. Dawkins referred to the 1996 report structure but suggested it could be in whatever format the current task force preferred.

**4. Review of Current City Speed Regulations and Current Traffic Statistics**

Newkirk wanted to review which streets were collector streets and noted Fargo wasn't included in code of ordinances. It was noted that the section from Randall to Western was missing – and could be easily added into the code. Newkirk also mentioned other streets that were not in the code as 'collectors': Viking, Williamsburg, Division, Averill, and Geneva Drive.

Guzzo suggested members look to find speed signs and pavement markings in their wards. Moran was skeptical that yield signs are effective, and that he believed a lighted stop sign was needed on Logan. Keske mentioned Geneva Drive and that there are no park zones at the park. Collins agreed about the need to look at park zone status on East Side Drive. Task force members mentioned the need for suggested speed limits on curves. Passarelli said a traffic

engineer would have to do a study to best determine the limits. Krapf stated the task force could make that recommendation to Council if they so desired. Keske suggested the City look at the USDOT recommendations on suggested speeds on curves. Passarelli stated that they have used a consultant when needed.

Newkirk stated roads are typically designed with a speed limit in mind so theoretically it would be designed and built based on a range of speed.

Spring had heard from a friend in Ward 5 on his concerns on lack of pedestrian crossing signage for State/Rt. 38. And if more signage could be installed. McCann also noted cut-through traffic around Harrison Street School to avoid E. State Street. Dawkins stated the City has inquired with IDOT (E. State is a state route) on options, and they usually require the municipality to cover all costs for their roadway. Schiber noted IDOT is not inclined to do crosswalks on 4 lane highway systems.

Discussion on the existing crosswalks and urging pedestrians to use them. Passarelli also stated some neighboring communities had put in these crosswalks and accidents actually increased. Collins noted increased truck traffic on East Side Drive and whether they could be banned.

Spring wanted to review the definitions and differences of a residential versus collector streets. Discussion on boulevard designation was heard. Schiber believed a higher level of aesthetics but could not verify exact definition or designation factors. Spring was interested to see the counts on Fargo from the recent traffic study. Passarelli couldn't confirm but estimated 3,000 vehicles. He would have the data available for the next task force meeting.

A request was also made to pull traffic complaints regarding speed and pedestrian safety issues.

Krapf stated that driving habits have changed dramatically since 1996 and something to consider when looking at own wards.

Collins suggested adding "cross traffic does not stop" on designated intersections. Passarelli said they are on Peyton and 4<sup>th</sup>, James, Blackberry & Cambridge, etc.

Discussion on prioritizing effective changes (city-owned roads vs. state-owned roads) was heard. Dawkins suggested making a comprehensive list that staff could review and make recommendations. Staff would also put together a cost list of items discussed so the task force can understand overall costs involved in certain recommendations and how those affect overall budget considerations.

There was discussion on future reconstruction of East State and what will be involved (streetscape). Dawkins noted there would be added improvements such as dedicated turn lanes.

Krapf urged members to continue to reach out to fellow Ward residents for input and ideas.

Dawkins hoped recommendations to update the code would happen, as well as educational pieces. We can do video for city channel. Safety campaigns, - many different options to approach the topic. Then also potential capital items for longer term planning. City has capability to do surveys if they desired.

Guzzo volunteered to start a list of question for a potential survey to be pushed out by City Communications avenues. Dawkins suggested that someone volunteer to write an article for the City newsletter that will be going out next week. Krapf volunteered. There was also some discussion about creating an email ([30mph@geneva.il.us](mailto:30mph@geneva.il.us)) for residents to email their comments/concerns.

Some final discussion on what traffic related items are in the upcoming budget was heard. Dawkins would send ward maps to the task force, Chief would collect list of collector streets and citizen complaints.

## **5. New Business**

Task force members confirmed the remaining meeting dates.

## **6. Adjournment**

On a motion by Collins, seconded by Guzzo, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous voice vote at 8:06pm.