

PARKING & TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Minutes of Public Hearing
March 13, 2002

Downers Grove Public Works Facility
5101 Walnut Avenue, Downers Grove

Chairman Johnson called the March 13, 2002 meeting of the Parking and Traffic Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. He then asked for a roll call.

ROLL CALL:

Present: *Commissioners:* Mr. Kren (7:50 p.m.), Ms. McNamara, Mr. Thurston, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. Wendt and Chairman Johnson.

Absent: Mr. Yeksigian.

Present: *Staff:* Mr. Bob Schiller, Sgt. Jim Nehls, Mrs. Chris Chalberg, Recording Secretary.

Visitors: Mr. Martin Tully, 3678 Venard Road; Ms. Linda Clevenger, 438 Lake Avenue; Ms. Valerie Noll, 4744 S. Fairview Avenue; Ms. Elena Castaneda, 4028 Forest Avenue; Vince and Mary Pongetti, 4030 Forest Avenue; Ralph and Barbara Kalma, 4140 Forest Avenue; Bernie and Sharon Kruse, 4406 Oakwood Avenue; Ms. Cathy Marang, 4429 Oakwood Avenue; Mr. and Mrs. William Wrobel, 7800 Queens Court; Mr. Dan Kasher, 133 Sherwood Court; Ms. Vivian Brandt, 26 Marie Drive.

Chairman Johnson informed the public that the meeting was being recorded on Village owned equipment to aid in the preparation of the minutes of the meeting. He then asked the Commission if they had any comments or changes regarding the minutes of the February 13, 2002 meeting.

COMMISSIONER THUSTON MOVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2002 PARKING AND TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING BE ACCEPTED AS SUBMITTED.

COMMISSIONER WENDT SECONDED THE MOTION. *Motion carried 5:0.*

NEW BUSINESS

File #04-02 Parking Restrictions on Florence Avenue between Indianapolis Avenue and Chicago Avenue

Chairman Johnson introduced the first agenda item that being the discussion of the Florence Avenue between Indianapolis Avenue and Chicago Avenue parking restrictions. Before discussing the agenda item, he explained that the Commission's responsibility is to act as a recommending body to the Village Council to look into issues and concerns brought forth by the residents related to parking and traffic. When an issue comes before the Parking and Traffic Commission, Village Staff gathers information on the particular subject of concern and presents a report to the Commission.

Chairman Johnson read the staff report for File #04-02.

BACKGROUND

Staff has received a request regarding a parking problem that is occurring near Lester School during morning drop-off and afternoon pickup times. Recently, an emergency vehicle could not pass through this section of Florence due to parking that was occurring on both sides of the street. This section of Florence, between Indianapolis and Chicago, is one block in length. Currently, no parking restrictions exist on either side of the street for this section of Florence.

STUDY

Staff observed that during peak morning and afternoon parking periods on Florence, both sides of the street are utilized for parking. Because the roadway is only two lanes wide with stone shoulders, parking on both sides reduces the roadway to function with only one lane of through traffic.

Staff also observed afternoon parking occurring near and around the designated school-crossing walk near this intersection. This parking near the intersection obstructs the crossing guards and pedestrians view, such that school children must partially step into traffic in able to get an initial view of roadway traffic. To help alleviate congestion, parking restrictions should be implemented on the north side of the crosswalk, between two drive approaches that exist for Lester School. Sight distance would be improved if "No Parking, here to corner" were installed on the east side of Florence, at its intersection with Indianapolis. Because this specific type of desired installation is less than 30 feet, Staff does not require Council action, and can post this restriction at anytime.

Additionally, the Commission may wish to consider the installation of regulatory control for the Florence and Indianapolis intersection. Because traffic volumes are very low for both approaching streets, Staff would not object to the installation of yield control, such that northbound Florence motorists must yield for Indianapolis traffic, and more importantly, Indianapolis pedestrians that may be using the adjacent crosswalk.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff advises that the Parking and Council forward a positive recommendation to the Village Council that the following be implemented:

- **“NO PARKING ANYTIME” FOR THE WEST SIDE OF FLORENCE, BETWEEN CHICAGO AVENUE AND INDIANAPOLIS AVENUE.**
- **“NO PARKING BETWEEN DRIVES” FOR THE NORTH SIDE OF INDIANAPOLIS, FOR THE TWO DRIVEWAYS NEAREST THE INTERSECTION OF INDIANAPOLIS AND FLORENCE.**
- **REGULATORY CONTROL AT THE FLORENCE AND INDIANAPOLIS INTERSECTION SUCH THAT NORTHBOUND FLORENCE AVENUE MOTORISTS MUST YIELD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO INDIANAPOLIS TRAFFIC.**

At this time, Staff is not advising parking restrictions for the east side of Florence, as the above mentioned proposed parking restrictions for the west side of Florence will, at the same time, accommodate two way travel and parking on one side. Ultimately, Staff leaves the decision as what to do or what not to do with the east side of Florence to the Parking and Traffic Commission, so that they may more accurately balance the needs potentially presented tonight from adjacent homeowners and Lester school patrons.

Chairman Johnson asked Bob Schiller if he had anything to add to the staff report.

Mr. Schiller stated that since preparation of the report, “No Parking Here to Corner” has been posted on the east side of Florence Avenue near Indianapolis Avenue.

Chairman Johnson asked if the School was notified of the parking restrictions prior to posting.

Mr. Schiller stated that he spoke with Lori Pilster, School District 58, regarding the proposed restrictions. They were invited to attend the Parking and Traffic Commission meeting to express any concerns they may have. The School District was pleased with the proposed restrictions.

Chairman Johnson welcomed audience members to come forward with any questions or comments.

Ms. Valerie Noll, 4744 S. Fairview Ave., said that she had requested the parking restrictions due to the safety factor for the children. She feels that children cannot see around the parked vehicles. She feels that it is very important for the parking restrictions to be posted to promote safety throughout the neighborhood for school children and other pedestrians.

Chairman Johnson asked if parents obey the present restrictions on Indianapolis Avenue?

Ms. Noll stated that the parents appear to violate the current parking restrictions. She feels that the installation of the signs will help motorists obey the rules.

Chairman Johnson expressed concern over the installation of a yield sign being adequate for the intersection due to the close proximity of the school. He questioned if the intersection functioned well without any regulatory control.

Ms. Noll replied that vehicles do not yield or stop at the intersection unless a child is present in the crosswalk. She feels that vehicles will tend to ignore a yield sign and is in favor of the installation of a stop sign at the intersection.

Ms. Linda Clevenger, 438 Lake Avenue, said that she drops her children off at the school. She concurs with Ms. Noll that a stop sign should be installed but at the very least a yield sign should be posted.

Chairman Johnson asked Mr. Schiller his opinion on a stop sign versus a yield sign.

Mr. Schiller stated that following the MUTCD guidelines the intersection does not meet the warrants for a stop sign. He feels due to the narrowness of the roadways and high traffic volumes during peak times there may be justification to deviate from the standards and place a stop sign at the intersection.

Commissioner Wendt questioned if this is the same situation as the intersection of Saratoga Avenue and Norfolk Street which was presented at the February 13, 2002 Parking and Traffic Commission meeting.

Mr. Schiller stated that a stop sign was proposed due to the increased traffic volumes on Saratoga Avenue and Norfolk Street. These streets carry a higher traffic volume due to the close proximity to Downers Grove South High School.

Chairman Johnson stated that the Saratoga Avenue and Norfolk Street intersection does not carry the same pedestrian volume as Florence Avenue and Indianapolis Avenue. The situation is similar but not the same situation.

Commissioner Stapleton asked if the installation of a stop sign would be better due to night meetings at the school. He questioned how often the school has night activities.

Ms. Noll stated that there are book fairs, parent / teacher conference meetings and open houses.

Commissioner Thurston said that he would favor the installation of a yield sign at this time. The issue could be revisited at a later date if the yield sign does not provide adequate intersection control.

Ms. Clevenger clarified to the Commission that the crossing guards present near the school are sixth grade students and not adults.

Ms. Elena Castaneda, 4028 Forest Avenue, said that she walks every morning and witnesses vehicles not stopping at intersections. She feels that a yield sign would not be effective and motorists would ignore the regulatory control.

COMMISSIONER WENDT MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE VILLAGE COUNCIL THAT THE WEST SIDE OF FLORENCE, BETWEEN CHICAGO AVENUE AND INDIANAPOLIS AVENUE BE POSTED WITH "NO PARKING ANYTIME", THE NORTH SIDE OF INDIANAPOLIS, FOR THE TWO DRIVEWAYS NEAREST THE INTERSECTION OF INDIANAPOLIS AND FLORENCE BE POSTED WITH "NO PARKING BETWEEN DRIVES" AND THE INTERSECTION OF FLORENCE AVENUE AND INDIANAPOLIS AVENUE BE POSTED SUCH THAT NORTHBOUND FLORENCE AVENUE MOTORISTS MUST STOP FOR INDIANAPOLIS AVENUE TRAFFIC.

COMMISSIONER STAPLETON SECONDED THE MOTION.

Roll Call: AYE: Mr. Wendt, Mr. Stapleton, Ms. McNamara, Mr. Thurston, and Chairman Johnson.

NAY: None.

Motion Carried: 5:0

Chairman Johnson stated that this recommendation would be sent to Village Council. He said that if anyone is interested in attending the Council meeting for this item they should watch the Village Corner section of the newspaper for the Council agenda dates. He further stated that the Village Clerk could also be notified and asked when this agenda item would be brought before Council.

NEW BUSINESS

File #07-02 Parking Restrictions on Forest Avenue North of 41st Street

Chairman Johnson read the Staff Report for File # 07-02.

BACKGROUND

At it's November 2001 Meeting, the Parking and Traffic Commission successfully recommended to the Village Council that parking be restricted on the south side of 41st Street, between Main and Forest from the weekday hours of 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Since this last meeting, excessive parking, which may be attributed to high school parking, has relocated and spread north to adjacent Forest Avenue.

STUDY

Staff has observed parking occurring on both sides of Forest, concentrated mostly within the first several hundred feet just north of its intersection with 41st Street. Complaints that have been received have been concentrated mostly on the east side. Geometrically this may be explained, as it would be more difficult for a motorist to look to the right backing up to see if traffic were clear.

Because of blind hills that exist between Herbert and 41st, Staff would recommend to extend whatever parking restrictions are implemented to extend all the way north to Herbert. Staff does not recommend elimination of parking completely for both sides, as this is not necessary based upon existing one way traffic patterns. One benefit of parking on one side is that the average speed of the roadway is reduced. Because Forest is designated as a one way street, more than adequate room would be available to accommodate one-way traffic flow northbound with proposed restrictions.

Additionally, Staff recommends restricting parking for fifty feet north of the intersection, to allow for more room for the larger turning radius of larger vehicles, such as: refuse trucks, emergency vehicles, buses and R.V.'s.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that a positive recommendation be forwarded to the Village Council to:

- **RESTRICT PARKING ON THE EAST SIDE OF FOREST AVENUE FROM A POINT 50 FEET NORTH OF 41ST STREET TO HERBERT STREET, STATING NO PARKING 8:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M. EXCEPT SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.**
- **RESTRICT PARKING AT ANYTIME FOR BOTH SIDES OF FOREST AT THE CORNERS NEAR 41ST STREET, FROM 41ST STREET TO A POINT 50 FEET NORTH.**

Chairman Johnson asked Bob Schiller if he had anything to add to the staff report.

Mr. Schiller said that as it states in the staff report, one of the reasons staff has not proposed restrictions on both sides of the street is due to the perceived high rate of speed on Forest Avenue. The ability for vehicles to park on one side of the street will give the perception of a narrow roadway and slow down the average rate of speed. Staff has also recommended that 50 feet from the intersection be cleared for emergency vehicles, refuse vehicles and buses to adequately maneuver corners.

Ms. Elena Castaneda, 4028 Forest Avenue, said that she feels that if parking restrictions are implemented the parked vehicles will move to 39th Street and 40th Street. She said that vehicles travel continuously at 40 m.p.h. on Forest Avenue. She witnessed two vehicles drag racing side by side down Forest Avenue last week even with parked vehicles present on both sides of the street.

Chairman Johnson stated that there are two main issues relating to Forest Avenue. The first issue is the reduction of speed on Forest Avenue. The Village has dealt with the issue of high school parking for several years. He concurred that if the parking restrictions are implemented the students will likely park further away from the high school.

Ms. Castaneda expressed concern over vehicles traveling the wrong way down Forest Avenue. She has noticed additional patrol vehicles and appreciates the attention given to Forest Avenue.

Sgt. Jim Nehls, Downers Grove Police Department, stated that he would place additional patrol on Forest Avenue to make speed observations and issue tickets if necessary.

Mr. Vince Pongetti, 4030 Forest Avenue, stated that he feels the parking restrictions would not help the residents on the west side of the road. The restrictions would create a parking lot for the high school on Forest Avenue. He feels that the parking restrictions would create hardship on residents with moderate side lots and short driveways. He would recommend restricted parking on both sides of Forest Avenue.

Mr. Ralph Kalmar, 4140 Forest Avenue, said that from his observations, vehicles travel at a high rate of speed on Forest Avenue. He concurs with Mr. Pongetti that the parking should be restricted on both sides of the street. If parking is not restricted on both sides of the street the restrictions should be limited to the first 50 feet from the corners. He further stated that speeding on Forest Avenue is not limited to high school students only, there are adult motorists that also speed.

Chairman Johnson read emails regarding the proposed parking restrictions received from Philip Bilbro, 3933 Forest Avenue; Mary Walter, 4129 Forest Avenue; and Donna Betz, 4217 Forest Avenue in favor of the parking restrictions.

He further stated that the parking situation near both North and South High School is an ongoing problem that appears to be worse in the Spring.

Commissioner McNamara said that the Parking and Traffic Commission has been working on the high school parking situation for over 15 years. It is a difficult situation as parking cannot be restricted for the high school students without affecting the residents as well.

Chairman Johnson stated that he feels parking should be restricted on one side of the street. If this restriction does not address the problem the Parking and Traffic Commission can readdress at a later date.

Mr. Pongetti said that currently there are not any parking restrictions on Forest Avenue. He does not see a benefit to restricting one side of the street only. He feels this will only push the parking issue further north along Forest Avenue.

Chairman Johnson stated that another option would be to do nothing except address the issue near the corners.

Commissioner Wendt said that he concurs with Chairman Johnson that at a minimum parking should be restricted 50 feet from the corners. He stated that he does not get a clear sense from the residents present that restricting one side would solve the issue.

Commissioner McNamara questioned if the parking would be restricted during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Chairman Johnson replied that these are the restrictions typically implemented near the schools. These hours provide the least amount of restrictions for the residents of the area.

Mr. Schiller reiterated two phone messages he had received in regard to the issue. Henrietta Hahn, 4116 Forest Avenue left a message expressing that she is in favor of the parking restrictions. Another message was received opposed to the parking restrictions.

Commissioner Kren feels that parking should be restricted on both sides of Forest Avenue. This restriction would be easier for the Police Department to patrol.

Commissioner McNamara asked if a garbage truck could get through with vehicles parked on both sides of the street.

Chairman Johnson replied that a garbage truck could get through on Forest Avenue but may have difficulty with turning the corner at 41st Street.

Mr. Schiller stated that if restricting one side of the street only is objectionable, he would be inclined to restrict the intersection only and leave parking on both sides of the street. This is due to speeding and perceptions in the area. He further stated that in the design of a roadway, investigating parking restrictions and investigating regulatory control the 85th percentile of speed is considered. Restrictions or regulatory control cannot be implemented based upon the types of situations that appear to be occurring on Forest Avenue. These cases are within the 15th percentile. Staff proposes to restrict parking on one side of the street to reduce the width of the roadway in turn reducing the speed of the vehicles traveling on Forest Avenue.

Commissioner Kren stated that from the comments he has heard from the residents, backing out of driveways and blocked driveways appear to be a concern. The overall safety of the neighborhood would be improved by implementing the parking restrictions.

Chairman Johnson said that it does not appear that there have been complaints regarding blocked driveways but there have been sight distance issue complaints. He feels that only one side of the street should be restricted.

Commissioner Kren questioned if the parking restrictions were implemented on one side of the street would the other side of the street appear before the Parking and Traffic Commission requesting parking restrictions.

Mr. Kalmar restated that if both sides of the street are not restricted that only the first 50 feet from the corner should be restricted.

COMMISSIONER KREN MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE VILLAGE COUNCIL TO RESTRICT PARKING ON THE EAST SIDE OF FOREST AVENUE FROM A POINT 50 FEET NORTH OF 41ST STREET TO HERBERT STREET, STATING NO PARKING 8:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M. EXCEPT SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS AND TO RESTRICT PARKING AT ANYTIME FOR BOTH SIDES OF FOREST AT THE CORNERS NEAR 41ST STREET, FROM 41ST STREET TO A POINT 50 FEET NORTH.

COMMISSIONER STAPLETON SECONDED THE MOTION.

Roll Call: AYE: Mr. Kren, Mr. Stapleton and Mr. Thurston.

NAY: Ms. McNamara, Mr. Wendt and Chairman Johnson.

Motion Failed: 3:3

Chairman Johnson asked the Commission if they had another motion.

COMMISSIONER WENDT MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE VILLAGE COUNCIL TO RESTRICT PARKING AT ANYTIME FOR BOTH SIDES OF FOREST AT THE CORNERS NEAR 41ST STREET, FROM 41ST STREET TO A POINT 50 FEET NORTH.

COMMISSIONER MCNAMARA SECONDED THE MOTION.

Roll Call: AYE: Mr. Wendt, Ms. McNamara, Mr. Kren, Mr. Stapleton, Mr. Thurston and Chairman Johnson.

NAY: None.

Motion Carried: 6:0

Chairman Johnson stated that the Police Department and Public Works Department will monitor the situation and if the problem persists the Parking and Traffic Commission will take further action.

Chairman Johnson stated that this recommendation would be sent to Village Council. He said that if anyone is interested in attending the Council meeting for this item they should watch the Village Corner section of the newspaper for the Council agenda dates. He further stated that the Village Clerk could also be notified and asked when this agenda item would be brought before Council.

OLD BUSINESS:

File #21-01 Parking Restrictions on Oakwood Avenue between Grant Street and Ogden Avenue

Chairman Johnson said that the Parking and Traffic Commission has previously addressed File #21-01 at the February 13, 2002 and December 12, 2001 meetings. He then read the Staff Report for File # 21-01.

BACKGROUND

The Parking and Traffic Commission has discussed parking restrictions for Oakwood Avenue, between Grant Street and Ogden Avenue, at its November 2001 and February 2002 Meetings.

Whether or not the Delta Sonic acquires additional property to accommodate employee parking in the future, the Parking and Traffic Commission may wish to recommend implementing parking restrictions. Since last communicating with the Delta Sonic Car wash representatives, Staff has noticed a reduction in the number of employees parking on street and complaints from adjacent residents.

Staff has previously presented recommendations based upon observation and data collection. Ultimately, the Parking and Traffic Commission must decide the best course of action, appropriately balancing the needs of the community. By taking into account Staff's suggestions and studies, residential concerns, elementary school needs, and Ogden Avenue business desires, the Parking and Traffic Commission is ultimately in the best position to formulate a recommendation to the Village Council.

RECOMMENDATION

As recommended previously, Staff recommends that a positive recommendation be forwarded to the Village Council to establish:

- 1.) NO PARKING ANYTIME - FROM OGDEN AVENUE TO A POINT 200 FEET SOUTH.**
- 2.) RESTRICTED NO PARKING FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. – FROM A POINT 200' SOUTH OF OGDEN AVENUE TO A POINT 460 FEET SOUTH OF OGDEN AVENUE. INCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND HOLIDAYS.**

3.) RESTRICTED 2 HOUR PARKING – FROM A POINT 480 FEET NORTH OF GRANT STREET TO A POINT 105 FEET NORTH OF GRANT STREET, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND HOLIDAYS.

Chairman Johnson stated that the recommendations are essentially the same recommendations given at the February 13th meeting. It has been brought to the Commission for further consideration and to see how the situation has developed over the past month.

Mr. Schiller presented polaroid's taken on Saturday, February 16th of on street parking on Oakwood Avenue. He said that although the parking has improved there is still sporadic parking. He has received phone calls from the residents requesting the parking restrictions along the west side of Oakwood Avenue be implemented due to the continuing parking on the street.

Chairman Johnson stated that the issue was discussed at great length at the February meeting and the consensus was to wait until April after the acquisition of additional land by Delta Sonic was complete.

Mr. Bernie Kruse, 4406 Oakwood Avenue, commented that the parking has improved but has not been eliminated. He is concerned with not only the on street parking but also the trash that he continually has to pick up from the vehicles. He expressed to the Commission that he would like to see the parking restrictions move forward.

Ms. Kathy Marang, 4429 Oakwood Avenue, questioned the time frame for Delta Sonic's acquisition of additional property.

Chairman Johnson replied that he is unsure of the time frame. He asked Mr. Schiller if he was aware of a time frame for the acquisition.

Mr. Schiller replied that he thought Delta Sonic has purchased the property but Mare's was still occupying the building at this point in time. He said that he is unsure of any time frame for Delta Sonic to take possession of the building.

Commissioner Kren said that he has visited the site three times, the first time he saw a truck and five cars, the second time there weren't any cars present and the third time was on a Saturday and there were two cars present. In his opinion, it would appear that there is minimal parking on Oakwood Avenue.

He questioned how many parking spaces are present from Ogden Avenue to the alley.

Mr. Schiller replied that there are three parking spaces.

Commissioner Kren stated that he felt the parking restrictions should be considered after the acquisition of additional property by Delta Sonic.

Mr. Kruse stated that at the last meeting discussion was held regarding the situation digressing without the parking restrictions.

Commissioner Kren asked what the current restrictions are on Oakwood Avenue.

Chairman Johnson replied that there is no parking on the east side of the street, no parking for the first 117 feet south of Ogden Avenue and no parking 105 feet north of Grant Street on the west side of the street.

Commissioner Kren questioned if parking had been restricted from the alley down to Pierce Downer School on the west side.

Mr. Schiller stated that parking was not restricted on the west side other than the restrictions previously stated by Chairman Johnson. In the past there was a bus loading zone near the school but this has been removed.

Chairman Johnson commented that he feels the issue has been discussed at great length and it is clear that the residents are in favor of the parking restrictions. He feels that the Parking and Traffic Commission should move forward on this matter.

Commissioner Kren said that he feels the businesses should also be considered prior to taking action.

Commissioner Kren questioned if Delta Sonic would be allowed to utilize Oakwood Avenue after 4:00 p.m.

Chairman Johnson replied that parking would be available after 4:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONER THURSTON MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE VILLAGE COUNCIL TO IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON OAKWOOD AVENUE:

- **NO PARKING ANYTIME - FROM OGDEN AVENUE TO A POINT 200 FEET SOUTH.**
- **RESTRICTED NO PARKING FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. – FROM A POINT 200' SOUTH OF OGDEN AVENUE TO A POINT 460 FEET SOUTH OF OGDEN AVENUE. INCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND HOLIDAYS.**
- **RESTRICTED 2 HOUR PARKING – FROM A POINT 480 FEET NORTH OF GRANT STREET TO A POINT 105 FEET NORTH OF GRANT STREET, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND HOLIDAYS.**

COMMISSIONER WENDT SECONDED THE MOTION.

Roll Call: **AYE: Mr. Thurston, Mr. Wendt, Ms. McNamara, Mr. Stapleton
and Chairman Johnson.**

NAY: Mr. Kren.

Motion Carried: 5:1

Chairman Johnson stated that this recommendation would be sent to Village Council. He said that if anyone is interested in attending the Council meeting for this item they should watch the Village Corner section of the newspaper for the Council agenda dates. He further stated that the Village Clerk could also be notified and asked when this agenda item would be brought before Council.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chairman Johnson asked Mr. Schiller for an update on File #05-02 Parking Restrictions on Florence Avenue South of Ogden Avenue.

Mr. Schiller replied that there is not an update at this time.

Chairman Johnson asked Mr. Schiller for an update on File #06-02 Regulatory Control at the Intersection of Saratoga Avenue and Norfolk Street.

Mr. Schiller replied that staff is currently working on obtaining additional information and is tentatively scheduling this issue for the April 2002 Parking and Traffic Commission agenda. He stated that the April agenda will also address Parking Fee Revisions and the review of the final report for the Main Street and Franklin Street Intersection Study.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bill Wrobel, 7800 Queens Court, appeared before the Commission to express his concern over the speeding issue in the Knottingham Subdivision. He stated that he has been working with the Village for several years in an attempt to address the issue. He read a letter received from Village Manager Ginex dated December 27, 2001 requesting residents to be conscientious of their speed throughout the neighborhood. He said that he has also been in contact with Robert Porter and Jim Nehls of the Downers Grove Police Department. He requested the Commission's guidance and support in addressing the speeding issue. He offered several suggestions to addressing the situation such as speed bump or speed dip installation, 25 m.p.h. speed limit painted onto the roadway, signage requesting motorists to slow down, install strips onto roadway or the presence of a silent police officer. The Police Department has provided

support through additional patrol but he feels the Police Department can only do so much and is requesting help from the Parking and Traffic Commission.

Chairman Johnson asked if the problem was unique to Queens Court or if it was throughout the entire neighborhood.

Mr. Wrobel replied that Queens Court is a feeder street off of Manning Road.

Mr. Dan Kasher, 133 Sherwood Court, stated that he has resided at the corner of Sherwood Court and Queens Court for three years. He said that his primary concern is for the safety of the children in the neighborhood. He stated that in his opinion this situation is an accident waiting to happen and he requested guidance from the Village as to alternatives and solutions.

Chairman Johnson stated that this situation is not unique to the Queens Court area, it is a problem throughout the entire Village. He requested that staff perform a study of the area and report back to the Commission.

Mr. Wrobel said that he could obtain information from the Village of Evanston regarding their use of speed bumps in the roadway.

Chairman Johnson stated that speed bumps on public roadways are illegal in Illinois due to the liability issue. The installation of speed humps would be a viable alternative but as residents become familiar with the roadway they may still travel at high speeds over the humps.

He further stated that staff would obtain statistics of the area and obtain volume and speed counts to determine exactly where the problem is. Upon obtaining this information it will be brought before the Commission to address.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Johnson stated that Commissioner McNamara will be retiring from the Parking and Traffic Commission. She has been a member of the Commission since 1975. Her last meeting will be April 10, 2002.

Commissioner Kren questioned the status of the Belmont Road and Prairie Avenue Regulatory Control.

Mr. Schiller stated that the Public Services Committee met and it was decided to change the wording to "no turn on red, when pedestrians are present". All signs throughout the Village will be modified to reflect the same language. This is tentatively scheduled for the March 26, 2002 Village Council Workshop.

Commissioner Kren requested staff restripe the area in front of the Post Office where there is No Parking Here to Corner. He feels that the no parking designation is not clear to motorists. He also requested that the sign be moved to clearly designate no parking.

He further stated that vehicles are parking in the right turn lane on Curtiss Street to access the Post Office. He requested that the Police Department monitor the situation.

Commissioner Stapleton stated that vehicles appear to be parking on Main Street in front of the White Hen. He asked if the street could be painted to reflect no parking. There are currently no parking signs present at the location but vehicles still park on Main Street.

Mr. Schiller stated that staff will be addressing the issues. He has also received complaints regarding vehicles unloading in that area.

Chairman Johnson said that part of the problem may be the design of the striping. He feels that it may not be clear to a motorist. Staff may need to look at modifying the striping in the future.

Sgt. Nehls stated that the Police Department has received complaints regarding traffic traveling southbound in the northbound lanes trying to get to the left turn lane at Rogers Street. During rush hours southbound Main Street traffic backs up to Franklin Street.

Commissioner Kren stated that vehicles utilize Fairview Avenue south of Maple Avenue as two lanes and it is not currently marked as two lanes. He questioned whether it is designated as two lanes or as one lane.

Mr. Schiller replied that the street is not wide enough for two legal lanes. The lanes need to be 11' each to be legal and the entire roadway is only 17' in width.

COMMISSIONER KREN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

COMMISSIONER MCNAMARA SECONDED THE MOTION. *Motion carried 6:0.*

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

/cc
staff/p&t/2002/minutes/march 13, 2002