

**SUFFOLK COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

Date: May 19, 2010

Place: Brookhaven Town Hall – Work Session Room

MEMBERS PRESENT (8)

Steven Kamvakis

Suffolk County Dept. of Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services

Robert Pearce

Southampton Town Police Department

Frank Pearson

Regional Traffic Engineer, NYSDOT

John Saraceno

Traffic Engineer III, Town of Smithtown

Richard H. Schneider

East Hampton Village Police Department

Stephen Shadbolt

Transportation Supervisor, Sachem Central School District

Arvind Vora

Traffic Engineer II
Suffolk County Department of Public Works

Lynn Weyant

Director of Traffic Safety
Town of Brookhaven

GUESTS PRESENT (11)

Denna Cohen, MADD
Robert Dubester, IGHL
Sarah E. Furey, SCPD
David S. Jones, Big Apple Motorcycle School
Audrey Kirwin, MetLife
Theodore Klein, Suffolk County Planning
Michael Mallin, SCPD
Nicholas Migliore, Sheriff's Office
Diane Ortiz, Big Apple Motorcycle School
Michael A. Petronzio, New York State Police
Tom Temistokle, NYSDOT

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of May 19, 2010 was called to order by Lynn Weyant, the Chair, at 2:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lynn Weyant, the Chair, asked for additions, corrections to the April 2010 minutes.

Frank Pearson of NYSDOT reported that under Engineering Programs on Page 4, Item 1, the third paragraph should include that a control test section on the Long Island Expressway in Hauppauge area has been selected to evaluate the feasibility of LED street lighting.

A motion to approve the April minutes as corrected was made by Robert Pearce and seconded by Stephen Shadbolt. The motion passed (10-0-0).

The Chair reported that we were one member short for a quorum and that the minutes would be presented again for approval at the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Arvind Vora reported that there were nine items in correspondence (see Attachment A) consisting of one piece of mail, one e-mail, and seven forwarded e-mails. He reported that the two-page piece of mail received from DMV Commissioner David J. Swartz informs about a new initiative called DERIC (Driver Education Research and Innovation Center). The main purpose is to find ways to minimize teenage fatalities, injuries, and accidents. He reported that the ABATE May 2010 issue had two interesting items: one the President's Page and the other Motorcycle Related Legislative Bills in N.Y.S. Chambers. As to the forwarded e-mail, he reported that Item 1 will be presented by John Saraceno, Item 2 by Stephen Shadbolt, and the rest are newspaper articles or announcements.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Lynn Weyant, the Chair, requested that Frank Pearson and Tom Temistokle of NYSDOT make a presentation on the Safe Senior Program. Frank Pearson made a PowerPoint presentation of the Safe Senior Program safety measures on Rt. 25/Rt. 25A (Main Street) in the business district of Smithtown and reported that approximately 15 to 20 percent of Smithtown residents are senior citizens. He reported on safety measures implemented such as:

- ADA compliance Ped Buttons, which require very little push or touch,
- Traffic signal cycle reduced from 180 second to 90 seconds,
- Approximately 500 feet of 42 inch high fencing on the south side to discourage mid-block crossing by pedestrians, and
- Traffic signs and pavement markings.

He responded to several questions. As to whether any of the signalized locations will have a Red Light Camera, he replied that it is Suffolk County which decides; as to whether a reduced speed of 30 MPH will be marked on the pavement, he replied no; and as to how to make sure that pedestrians push the button so they get ample time to cross the roadways, he replied that it is tricky because it is a matter of education and habit, and as such they plan to distribute two-sided small cards (see Attachment B). Lynn Weyant reported that at the Brookhaven Safety Town students are trained and taught to use push buttons.

Lynn Weyant thanked both of them for a very good presentation.

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS

- Michael Mallin of SCPD distributed one page of Enforcement Statistics for January 1, 2010 through April 30, 2010 (see Attachment C).
- The Sheriff's Office had no report to present.
- Robert Pierce of Southampton Police reported that during the past four months 93 DWI arrests were made compared to 56 in last year, an increase of 33 percent. He also reported that the grant applications for Buckle Up and STEP have been submitted and CLICK or TICKET enforcement will start this coming Monday.
- Richard H. Schneider of the East Hampton Village Police Department reported that the grant application for Buckle Up enforcement has been filed and accepted, and enforcement will start next week.
- Michael A. Petronzio of NYS Police reported that the Troopers with NYSDOT cooperation will begin commercial vehicle enforcement more on the east-end towns.

ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

- Frank Pearson of NYSDOT, who just made the Safe Senior Program presentation, reported that the NYSDOT is interested in expanding the program and looking for other locations adding that the two communities under consideration are Babylon and Riverhead.
- Arvind Vora of Suffolk County reported that a blanket permit has been received from NYSDOT for Red Light Cameras. He went over the list of approximately 25 County road sections slated for resurfacing this year. He also reported that Dan Montimurro of NYSDMV informed via e-mail that their efforts to have Motorcycle Safety & Awareness Month Press Event in Suffolk County did not work out, partly due to fiscal problems of the state. However, on a positive note some of the safety materials to promote motorcycle safety should be available soon.
- John Saraceno of Smithtown reported that he was a member of the committee for which RBA Consultants prepared a Corridor Management Plan for Select Historic Long Island Parkways. He reported that scenic byways like Ocean Parkway in Babylon and Islip can be made attractive for bicyclists, and an open house meeting is planned for June 2, 2010 at 5 PM in Freeport. He also reported on a new version of the next generation police car as well as GPS for off-road vehicles (www.gfleet.com).
- John Saraceno of Smithtown reported that the Maple Avenue construction is underway between Rt. 25 and Rt. 111, sidewalks and curbs are complete, and the only town maintained signalized intersections on Maple Avenue will have a video detection as opposed to the current loop detectors. As to the Nichols Road construction project, he reported that the work will start once reallocation of funding is achieved. He also reported that the traffic signal cabinets will be upgraded at seven locations. Upon a question from Lynn Weyant, he reported that Smithtown has 67 traffic signals and 20 flashing signals.
- Lynn Weyant of Brookhaven had no report to present.

HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMS

- Denna Cohen of MADD reported that **Walk Like MADD** will be this Saturday at the Great Lawn at Farmingdale College. Registration begins at 9:00 AM and it is promised to be a fun and exciting event. All are welcome for a good time, free food, and family fun.
- Steve Shadbolt of Sachem Schools reported that there are a lot of contentious issues due to mandates as reported by Commissioner Steiner in an e-mail forward to all on May 7, 2010.
- Lynn Weyant reported that she has prepared a chart for the submitted GTSC grant applications through SCTSB and will e-mail it to all. She reported an overall 6 percent reduction in grant amounts (see Attachment D.)

She also reported that the Walk-Bike Symposium will be held on June 7, 2010 and our GTSC representative, Jennifer Hogan, has made a special request to all of us to make every efforts to attend, more so since it is being held in Suffolk County.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

None

STOP DWI

None

OLD BUSINESS

Lynn Weyant reported that there are no new developments on SCTSB member appointments or on the SCTSB website.

NEW BUSINESS

Diane Ortiz, President of the Big Apple Motorcycle School reported the following news items:

- Big Apple was invited to participate at a meeting in Albany to discuss ways to improve motorcycle safety.
- Big Apple received preliminary approval from the NYSMSP to offer the Motorcycle Safety Foundation training program in Suffolk County.
- This coming Sunday the Big Apple Motorcycle School will have free bike inspections and pre-ride inspections at the Bagel store in Airport Plaza. Free breakfast is provided. Long sleeve shirts, long pants, over-the-ankle boots or shoes and gloves are required.
- Big Apple Motorcycle School will be presenting two Safety Seminars at the Americade Motorcycle Touring Rally to be held from June 7-10 in Lake George.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Lynn Weyant, the Chair, asked for a motion to adjourn the May meeting. The motion was made by Robert Pearce and seconded by John Saraceno, and passed unanimously (8-0-0).