



**ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING**

Virtual Meeting

September 1, 2021

Minutes Prepared by Holly Simmons

- I. The meeting was called to order at 8:07 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Keith Chernikoff, Ben Friedman, Jim Drake, Maria Silvia Miller, and Syed Shamim

STAFF PRESENT: Holly Simmons

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Hartman, Bill Orleans, John Campanile, Diana McFadden

COUNCIL PRESENT: Council Member J Davis

- II. Agenda approved as amended
- III. Minutes of July 21st approved as presented
- IV. Discussion of traffic calming for Lakeside Drive

Building on informal conversations that occurred prior to the beginning of the meeting, Mr. Friedman stated that bystanders of the recent car accident on Lakeside Drive [in which a car ran off the road, down the sidewalk, across Westway, and crashed into an apartment building] observed the car accelerating into the collision. This was also reported by the Greenbelt News Review. Mr. Drake asked if that indicated the accident was not break failure. Mr. Friedman stated it would indicate the driver may have pushed on the accelerator instead of the brakes. Council Member Davis said that this can happen when a driver panics and thinks the brakes are failing.

Mr. Friedman noted that his wife witnessed the accident last year in which a delivery van crashed into the Lakeside apartments. The speed limit on this road is currently 25mph, but it is frequently exceeded. Mr. Drake stated that a 25mph speed limit is too high, there is barely any room for two cars to pass one another with cars parked on both sides of street. He questioned how speed limits are determined. Mr. Friedman stated that it is a problem for pedestrians to be in the road, and that sidewalks would make it a much safer place for people to walk.

Mr. Chernikoff asked Council Member Davis if she could provide any history regarding sidewalks on Lakeside Drive. Council Member Davis indicated that many residents on Lakeside haven't wanted to give up yard space for the installation of sidewalks, while others think sidewalks would destroy the natural look of Lakeside. She stated that there is not much desire for sidewalks on Lakeside and lots of opposition. Mr. Drake reported that it's not just that there is no desire, but that it would be difficult for the City to implement: the right-of-

way is not uniform; the mechanism for the City to gain the land for sidewalks is unclear; and there are physical obstacles including telephone poles on one side and fire hydrants on other.

Mr. Friedman concluded that Staff will perform their study and the Board will see what the results are. Mr. Drake questioned whether Staff can also study if 25mph is too fast, and what can be done if so (traffic calming measures, etc.). Council Member Davis recommended that the Board request that Council direct Staff to do a traffic study, as a change in speed limit would be a change in policy, which she believes Council should decide.

The Board passed a motion 5-0 to ask Council to have a traffic study done on Lakeside Drive related to excessive speed, possibly resulting in speed being reduced, stop signs, and other measures. Mr. Friedman will draft language for request.

V. Discussion of Hanover Parkway

Building on informal conversations that occurred prior to the beginning of the meeting, Mr. Shamim brought up concerns regarding Hanover Parkway in the area of Doctor's Hospital, at which he had made a left-turning movement and received a ticket; however, upon further discussion, Council Member Davis identified that the particular intersection of concern is outside of the City's control.

VI. Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update

Discussion of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update was postponed until next meeting.

VII. New business

Mr. Campanile (with Ms. McFadden) attended the meeting to speak on behalf of the GHI Bicycle Committee. GHI has budgeted for bike racks throughout GHI to help families bike. The City and GHI have a cost-sharing relationship when it comes to playgrounds, in which the City is responsible for 75% of the cost and GHI is responsible for 25%. The Committee would like the same type of arrangement for bicycle racks in GHI. The Committee is seeking APB advice on what process/procedures they would need to follow, in advance of bringing the idea to the GHI Board. Council Member Davis indicated that they would work directly with Public Works. Further, she thinks it would be good to have bike racks at all playgrounds in the City, and requested that when APB does ped/bike planning, they recommend that all playgrounds should have bike racks. This could also be added to the City budget for playground work upon APB's request.

Mr. Chernikoff proposed adding language regarding bike racks to the ped/bike plan. Mr. Drake referenced earlier discussions of bike racks, including recommendations made by the bike coalition and an APB memo on the subject, and stated that the Board should go back to what they recommended earlier if they are going to make recommendations now. Council Member Davis stated those recommendations pertained to sites other than playgrounds. Mr. Chernikoff thought they can be merged. Mr. Friedman asked which rack style is recommended. Mr. Campanile stated that the U-shaped bike racks are sufficient in many

locations, while he believes that the S-shape is better in areas that have more demand. Mr. Drake thought they preferred the U-shape, and Staff stated that the inverted U-shape is the typical Staff recommendation.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.