

Committee members present were Chairman Craig Nordfelt, Christopher J. Mann, Carole Mason, Eric Erickson, Rose Bagley, Donna Benfield, Randy Schwendiman, Randy Lewis, Randy Reese, John Millar, and Stephen Zollinger. Mayor Bruce Sutherland was present for the first few moments of the meeting.

Correction on minutes 2nd page 2nd paragraph 'Rose withdrew her second' rather than 'Rose withdrew her motion'. John moved and Chris Mann Seconded the motion.

Craig Nordfelt asked about reports, Randy Lewis had no police reports, they are issuing tickets and they have disgruntled students. They are being made aware of the parking changes and the signs are doing some good. The signs have a no parking symbol and have from 10:00 am to 11:30 am written on the bottom. The signs have currently been put up on College Ave. Concessions for the people going to the Presbyterian Church will need to be made. Not all of the signs are up yet. The street crew has been tied up with Christmas lights. The next signs going up are on Cornell, then Harvard. There was some discussion on whether the signs were really needed yet on Harvard.

There was discussion on how many cars were parked on Second East – averaging about 70 – 130 cars parked everyday. Board wants to talk to residents to get their input. They also want to clarify on what blocks the signs are most needed – approx between 250 South and 350 South. John Millar wants discussion on this matter. Rose Bagley made a motion to clarify regulation on no parking between 250 South – 350 South on Harvard at 10:00 -11:30. Eric Erickson seconded it. All approved.

Craig asked if there was anymore discussion of streets or planning and zoning. There was no more business at this time.

Chris Mann had questions on what was in the paper about the last meeting. The paper had made incorrect statements, but Donna Benfield stated that the issues went through city council like it was stated by the Traffic Committee. Chris asked Donna if she could let the Committee know when an issue they discuss goes through City Council so the committee members can be there if they want to attend the meeting. Rose also wanted to know when the City Council approves or denies the committee's motions or suggestions.

Craig Nordfelt asked about speed limit signs on 12th West, and whether they had been put up yet. They are not as of yet. Also a 3 way stop on Mill hollow. John said that they are still doing a study on the necessity of a 3 way there. Rose Bagley pressed for this to get done. Randy Lewis stated that there had recently been an accident there.

John Millar brought up the street light on 3rd South 2nd West lighting the crosswalk by Taco Time. He wants to get this done because of the high pedestrian traffic; it needs a 400 watt light. Looking into budget for next year on light on 4th South 3rd West, looking maybe to relocate the light on 3rd South.

Discussion moved to traffic on 2nd East. Donna Benfield suggested having a 4 way stop on 1st South 2nd East. Randy Lewis said the accidents were not bad there. Randy Schwendiman stated that 2nd East should be a commuter street and suggested a study be done on where the commuter streets are in Rexburg. John stated that traffic on 4th East was getting heavier because of the congestion on South 2nd East. To keep the traffic out of the neighborhoods, Randy Schwendiman proposed that a study be done on 2nd East to put in stop lights and turning lanes to keep traffic moving. Chris Mann seconded it

John Millar said that state has budgeted money to replace stop lights on 2nd East 1st North, Center and Main, and 1st East and Main to bring them up to current standards and synchronize them. Budget is for 2007; John wants to see if we can get the state to move up the budget schedule for the stop lights.

Discussion moved back to South 2nd East wanting it to be commuter friendly yet deal with the pedestrian traffic. Having no parking on 2nd East was suggested, also, the light on 2nd East and Main going North and South was discussed. It runs on short cycles and is causing a problem. John said that the state is coming in to check the light. Randy S. again proposed that we study 2nd East through the winter and bring it up again in the spring. Chris Mann seconded the need for a study. All were in favor.

Chris Mann asked Randy Reese if the college would approve of taking out parking on the streets in front of the dorms. Randy said that they would not be happy. He had a survey conducted by the college of parking and occupancy. Utilization of lots survey was done last year. There will be a new survey done in the next few weeks. The college has been campaigning to try and get the students to walk more. College won't build more lots until they are full. The suggestion was made to ban parking on streets on the East side of 2nd East so students will park in student parking lots. New buildings that are built by college doesn't drive how much parking the college creates it is the enrollment. John Millar stated that parking on public streets should be up to the city, but the college and city should work together. He doesn't want so many parking spaces that the students will start driving from building to building. Craig Nordfelt wants Randy Reese to get new survey and hopefully information on how many permits were issued. The current survey that Randy Reese brought from the college was discussed. There was some concern that there would be enough spaces for the students to park especially with the no parking on the streets from 2:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. It was discussed that the apartment owners were responsible for providing enough parking for their tenants. Stephen Zollinger pointed out that the parking problem has not reached a point where the city can't control the problems that arise.

Donna Benfield brought up some complaints that she has had in the past week about the boot man, and the boot man himself wants to speak with her. Stephen told her about an ordinance that is going to be presented before city council the first week in December which is going to require a representative of the property to be present in order for a car to be booted. The apartment owners don't want the ordinance because in the past they were released of all responsibility of the boot man's decision. The city is adopting provos from Missoula to deal with this matter.

Craig moved on to item G – speeding on Hwy 33. They wanted 35 on the S curves; it now stands at 45. Eric Erickson wants the speed limit reduced to 35 at least to the overpass to see if further accidents can be avoided on Pioneer Rd and Main (Hwy 33). A formal letter to the state to evaluate a study of the speed limit and consider lowering it was suggested by John Millar with the Mayor's approval and signature.

Discussion was then turned to 2nd East and the Salem Hwy with jumps from 35 mph to 45 mph. The conscientious was that it should be 35 mph.

Randy Lewis then brought up N 2nd East by Arby's entrance. There is no turn lane and you have to cross three lanes of traffic to go south. The turn lane is going strictly to the Movie Theaters and new strip mall. When construction is done, it will be a controlled intersection; however, the concern is what to do about it right now to avoid accidents. It was suggested that we put a no left turn sign there temporarily to shift liability if an accident occurs. The new light that is going in there is approximately three months out according to John Millar. There was some concern from having the traffic lights so close together, but because of the nature of the businesses, the density of the traffic will occur at different times, i.e. the movie theaters busiest times are in the evening rather than 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. A proposal was made by Craig Nordfelt that no left turn at Arby's. There was no motion.

Stephen Zollinger pointed out that it would cause more problems – violations or problem up to the next light. John Millar suggested that they could put a sign up ahead that states no left turn. Stephen Zollinger suggested that they repaint the left turn only lane and turn it into a suicide lane allowing for a left or right turn until the light could be put up. No decision was made except to look at the situation and leave it up to the city to resolve.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2003.