

Committee members present: Craig Nordfelt chairman, Chris Mann, Rose Bagley, Donna Benfield, Lynn Archibald, Eric Erickson, John Millar, Stephen Zollinger, and Corey Rammell.

Lee Ward and Jim Newman were present to discuss a problem with parking on 2nd S and Cornell.

Approval of minutes: Lynn Archibald made a motion to approve last month's minutes. Chris Mann seconded it. All approved.

Reports:

Police – None

Streets – A question was raised about when the zoning of an area is changed is traffic considered. John Millar said that traffic issues are looked at when developers come in. The developer pays for a study to be done for that area. 4th South did not meet the criteria for a stop light when the Arterial Study was done.

Planning and Zoning – None

Old Business:

South 2nd E Study – John Millar said that he watched the four way stop on 3rd S 2nd E. Traffic moved efficiently through the intersection and has a low accident history. Suggestions were made to move parking off streets by the main entrance of the Hinckley Building. As for pulling parking off 2nd E, it wouldn't have the results hoped for unless a turning lane was put in. Having a traffic light would probably slow traffic down on 3rd S 2nd E. Moving parking away from the corner by at least 1 parking space on 3rd S and 4th S 2nd E would provide a kind of turning lane and improve visibility for pedestrians. The corners would have to have signs to prohibit parking.

Rose Bagley made a motion to take 1 parking spot on 2nd E and 3rd S and 4th S and paint it back for no parking. Eric Erickson seconded it. Rose amended motion to have John Millar evaluate how many parking spaces are needed to improve visibility. Eric Erickson seconded amendment. All in favor.

New Traffic Light, 2nd E, Synchronize? – John will visit with IDT to check on time schedule for synchronization and how they plan to do it. There is no perfect method, but synchronizing can be more efficient.

Street Light 1st S Center (trees) – John Millar has not been able to get that tree pruned yet.

No Parking Signs 2nd East, Survey – Craig Nordfelt wondered who would do survey. Residents on 2nd to 3rd S on 2nd E would have survey sent out to them. Deborah and John Millar were asked to get that done.

New Business:

Problem at 2nd S & Cornell – Lee Ward and Jim Newman were present to discuss a problem with the parking on this particular part of the street. Mr. Ward and Mr. Newman have adjoining driveways with a fence part way down the middle to divide the two properties. Students park overlapping the East and West ends of their driveways narrowing the opening of the two entrances. This is blocking their visibility and forcing them to negotiate the dividing fence to avoid cars blocking the ends of their driveways. The police have not issued tickets to offenders. Students have got out of their cars and moved their garbage cans so that they can't get picked up. It is a \$20.00 trip charge to have the Sanitation Department make a special trip to pick them up. They would like to have the driveways painted and signs posted.

Stephen Zollinger advised the committee to send a recommendation to the council to paint curbs with 5 ft setbacks – have John Millar go out and designate an area around the university that would need this done.

Eric Erickson made a motion to have John Millar designate the area that would need to have the curbs painted to improve parking. Rose Bagley seconded it. All in favor.

Traffic Safety Issues/Quadrant Reports – Randy Lewis asked Rose Bagley if she would mention that the trees that run along side the canal off Main on N 4th W have narrowed the street to almost a one lane road. John Millar has talked to the residents and asked if the trees could be removed. The residents seemed to have no problem with it; however, the trees have been there for years so there may be some citizens that have sentimental issues removing them.

Chris Mann had people approach him asking if they would be able to have a four way stop on 1st E 2nd S by the Kirkham Building. There is no visibility for others in the intersection and for pedestrian traffic. The committee agreed that a four way stop in that intersection would back up traffic. 2nd South has taken on the traffic that used to be on Viking Dr. However, there have been several pedestrian accidents on that street. John Millar said that he would look at that intersection and see what could be done to improve safety. Maybe moving parking away from the corners of the intersection like what was suggested on S 2nd East would be an idea to improve visibility for cars as well as pedestrians at the crosswalks.

Eric Erickson wanted an update on the traffic light study done on 12th West and Main. John Millar is having meeting with IDT tomorrow to find out more information on that. John Millar had a letter from IDT saying that they will wait until the traffic light is in on 12th W before they do a study on the speed limit. This letter also talked about the section of highway 250 ft north of traffic signal on Salem Highway and 2nd E (by North Horkley's). It discussed a speed limit adjustment out there and whether it should be changed to 35 mph. The average speed now is 40 mph.

The committee would also like the sign at the middle Rexburg exit to say 'Rexburg' instead of 'Salmon'. April 14, 2004, the IDT is going to be at the Chamber of Commerce's offices.

John Millar will have an update on 12th West signal in minutes that Deborah will send out. – John Millar said that the IDT had no firm deadline on that traffic signal. They are having right of way problems. They are anticipating that signal to go in this summer, but they haven't got anything definite as of yet.

Donna Benfield stated that there was a safety issue dealing with kids on skate boards and roller blades on city streets. On Millhollow and 4th E, kids are riding down the street on skateboards and rollerblades in the dark. She would like this to come to the attention of the City Council and see if there is an ordinance that could prevent this. Lynn Archibald would like Stephen Zollinger to research and clarify what is considered a vehicle and if it is legal for skateboards and roller blades to be on streets and sidewalks.

Donna Benfield also said that residents that live on or by 4th South have a petition going around about the 4th S and 3rd W intersection. They feel that it is still unsafe and would like the city to do something about it. There have been several near miss accidents. Corey Rammell suggested pedestrian controlled crosswalk lights. Flashing lights and brighter street lights were discussed as options for safer crosswalks. They wanted to prioritize crosswalks; 4th S and 3rd W and the Taco Time crosswalk on 2nd W being at the top of the list. Corey Rammell wondered about regular stop lights not just blinking lights at dangerous crosswalks.

Cory Rammell made a motion to ask John Millar to get a list of costs for pedestrian controlled stop lights for four lane crosswalks, and other options and costs to improve pedestrian safety so they can recommend these ideas to the City Council.

Rose Bagley seconded it.

All in favor.

Donna Benfield had a petition from BYU-ID students concerning three crosswalks that they felt were poorly lit and a serious safety concern. They were: 1st W close to 3rd S – the two crosswalks directly across from the Hart building, 450 S 1st W – across from Somerset Apartments, and 7th S by upper intramural fields. John Millar said that Leishman Electric was working on tracking down the short that affects the street lights on 7th South. Hopefully they would have that fixed by next week. John Millar wanted the Police/Randy Lewis to check the lighting for the other areas of concern for next month's meeting.

New Committee Members – Hannah Bird is going to be the new member replacing Carole Mason. Her approval as a committee member will go through City Council on April 7, 2004.

Citizens Academy Meeting Discussion – Craig Nordfelt had handouts with the guidelines for committee members from the Meeting. There was very good feedback about the meeting and those who attended felt like they had a better understanding of advisory roles

and of dealing with personal agendas. Appreciation went to the Mayor and staff for providing this information, and the committee members who attended.

Next Meeting is May 4, 2004 at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned.