

Minutes
Public Ways Safety Committee
Bolton, Massachusetts
September 27, 2023

Members Present: Mary Ciummo, Shandy Carpenter, and Mike Keller.

Invited guests: Christopher Strus and Kathleen Andrews.

The minutes of the July 12, 2023 meeting were reviewed and approved. There was no August 9th meeting due to lack of zoom access and the September 13th meeting did not have quorum.

Sign requests:

- Annie Moore Road: The Committee voted against both requests:
 - Posting a speed limit of 20 mph denied, noting that Annie Moore is a dead-end road with low traffic volumes. A speed study to set regulated speeds on Bolton roads hasn't been done since 1994 (Green Road); and the Committee is concerned with the costs involved. Referred the requestor to the Public Safety's webpage on how speed limits are set in order to understand the process.
 - Two amphibian crossing signs: Request denied. Upon consultation with Conservation Agent Rebecca Bucciaglia, the Committee recommended that the number of species run over be documented in reports and photos over the course of a year or two. Information can be submitted to Mass Wildlife's Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program for free signs, with the town paying for the posts (as was done on Still River Road).
- Main Street near #1009:
 - blind driveway sign: the Committee will do a site visit of the location and report at our next meeting.

- bus stop ahead sign to be placed on 117 westbound approaching #1009: Shandy will contact Dee Bus for any information concerning that stop.
- Still River Road: request involves town wide 25mph speed signs and accompanying thickly settled area signs (as in Harvard). This is ongoing and overlaps with the work we are doing concerning these signs.

Townwide 25mph speed signs for thickly settled areas: Kathleen Andrews has been working with the Committee to investigate Stow's adoption of these signs. She has been in contact with their Town Planner on the process of determining which roads are thickly settled. She apprised the Committee of Bolton inclusion in mass.gov's website (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/speed-limits-in-thickly-settled-or-business-districts>) as having opted into MGL Chapter 90, Section 17C for townwide area covered on September 2, 2023.

Prospective Committee members Kathleen Andrews and Christopher Strus: both candidates expressed their interest in joining the Committee. Chris filled out an application back in 2022, wanting to become more active in the community by contributing his time to the town. His background is in electrical and computer engineering and can assist in technical matters. Kathleen has many years as a Project/Program manager and enjoys gathering and analyzing data including finding and speaking to people that can assist with supporting current topics. She is very proficient with EXCEL.

The Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the Select Board appointing both Chris and Kathleen to the Committee. Mary will ask Jenny Jacobson and Don Lowe to place this on the Selectboard's agenda.

Schedule meeting with Don Lowe: Mary will contact Don for his availability.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Mary Ciummo.