

Town of Guilford  
Safe Streets Task Force  
Committee Meeting  
Regular Meeting, August 8, 2019  
7:00 pm at Guilford community Center, Faulkner Room

Members present: *Chairman, Sam Gerritz; Melissa Shaw; Kimberly Schmid; Bill Eggers; Dick Reynolds; Tim Sperry; Mia Samsel; Helen Higgins; Louis Mackall*  
Others present: *Police Chief Jeff Hutchinson; Kristin Jones, Recording Secretary*

**Meeting was called to order by Chairman Sam Gerritz at 7:04 pm.**

Sam Gerritz welcomed everyone and noted that Sarah Prown, Sarah Williams and Dolores Hayden have resigned and Bob Yaro has been appointed to the Safe Street Task Force.

**1. Approval of July 11, 2019 Minutes**

Helen Higgins made a clarification on page 2. It should be changed from Dolores Higgins to the consensus of the group.

**Motion:** *Tim Sperry made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2019 meeting as amended, seconded by Melissa Shaw and voted unanimously approved.*

**In favor:** *Sam Gerritz, Melissa Shaw, Kimberly Schmid, Bill Eggers, Dick Reynolds, Tim Sperry, Mia Samsel, Helen Higgins*

**Abstain:** *none*

**Oppose:** *none*

**2. Update from the Guilford Police Department**

Chief Jeff Hutchinson noted Guilford Police Department is continuing their ongoing public and safety efforts. He noted that a great website to get the information is on the UConn crash data repository website, <https://www.ctcrash.uconn.edu/> The information is updated daily and anyone can look onto the site, they would just need to register. In regards to pedestrian/bike crashes, over 9 accidents were bicycle related and 13 were pedestrian related over the last 5 years.

Louis Mackall joined at 7:27pm.

**3. Draft of Safe Street Task Force Mission Statement.**

Part of the mission statement should include creating a public process for public engagement in town around town motorized and non-motorized initiatives.

Louis Mackall suggested listing all modes of transportation in town.

Kimberly Schmid suggested it is also important to realize that not all roads have to be everything to everyone.

Some roads are optimized for bicycles and not so car friendly where as others are optimized for cars. It is important to look at the road classifications of all the roads.

8:15 Kimberly Schmid left.

Sam Gerritz suggested Complete Streets should be embraced as a value, provided that people understand that it doesn't mean every street is going to have both sidewalks and bike lanes on both sides of the street.

8:30 Mia Samsel left.

#### **4. Short Term goals for September Meeting**

- Figuring out where speeding was more prevalent and having an inventory of where sidewalks, right of ways, hotspots and danger points to areas where citizens are having issues were
- List of road classifications
- Get guidance from town residents
- Create surveys for residents to help the committee learn where pathways could be/should be created
- Identify current planning ordinances that pertain to new and residential construction and new road construction
- Identify the town land properties and/or town land properties to see where we can sustain pathways that aren't going to impact residents and add value to the town
- Look at the parking issue in front of Guilford Savings Bank on the Green
- Better visual display of signs

#### **5. Long Term goals for September Meeting**

- Long term viability of the Safe Street Task Force so that the longevity of committee exists for many years.
- education outreach
- Put in place a process as a groups that is consistent in engaging the people of the town and the town government in which to generate ideas for upgrades
- With guidance from the town residents and previous transportation place, identify locations or pathways, sidewalks would benefit a large number of non-vehicle transportation users
- Connect existing sidewalks, examine town statues and town ordinances to implement sidewalk construction in residential and nonresidential construction projects and when road construction is being proposed
- Look at road narrowing and traffic calming

Melissa Shaw suggested for next agenda, based on the discussion, everyone should look at what a mission statement, long term and short term goals should be and submit it a week before the meeting.

#### **6. Public Comment**

George Page commented that the crosswalks in town are dangerous and some of them need to be painted.

## 7. Adjournment

**Motion:** *Tim Sperry made a motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm, seconded by Bill Eggers and unanimously approved.*

**In favor:** *Sam Gerritz, Melissa Shaw, Dick Reynolds, Helen Higgins, Tim Sperry, Louis Mackall, Bill Eggers*

**Abstain:** *none*

**Oppose:** *none*

Respectively Submitted:

*Kristin M. Jones*

Kristin M. Jones

Recording Secretary

DRAFT