

RYAN GRIM
Chief of Police



300 W BARAGA AVENUE
MARQUETTE MI49855
(906)228-0400

GREG KINONEN
Captain of Detectives

JAMES FINKBEINER
Captain of Patrol Operations

City of Marquette Traffic/Parking Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes- 08/16/2022

- I. Meeting located in the Marquette City Police Department Conference Room
- II. Meeting Called to Order: 5:09 pm
- III. Roll Call: Present – Alan Sherbinow, Orville Dishno, Jodi Lanciani, Barb Owdziej, Angela Rayhorn.
Others present: Captain James Finkbeiner, Marquette Police Liaison.
- IV. Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda by Orville Dishno, seconded by Jodi Lanciani. Approved unanimously 5-0.
- V. Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from 07/19/22 by Jodi Lanciani, seconded by Al Sherbinow. Approved unanimously 5-0.
- VI. Public Comment:
 - Zack Youngs, West Kaye Avenue.

One wheel Ambassador. Gave a written copy of his comment. (Included.) Talked about one wheel, PEVs (personal electric vehicles) and Electric Skateboards. Discusses that not only are they fun, but they are good for the environment and transportation within the city as a whole. Discussed specific information about one wheel and PEVs and how the State of Michigan defines them. Discusses that local Marquette City ordinance defines a one wheel as an electric skateboard. Describes the mechanics of one wheels and speed capabilities. Described the safety features of one wheel. Referenced the May 9th, 2022, city ordinance 707 that was passed by the City of Marquette. In the ordinance there is a carveout for class one E-bikes. Zack also discusses conversations with city employees that clarify electric wheelchairs are also not included. He would like to see education and safety encouraged for all road users and everyone having equal access to the bike path to promote a more inclusive community.

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- Shawn Mullins - Marquette native, combat veteran Iraq 2006, world traveler, lives in Harvey (?).

Shawn shares that there is no place like Marquette, it is home. He heard about issues regarding PEVs allowed on the multi-use bike path and streets/sidewalks, and it broke his heart. He uses PEVs for stress relief, for self and his son. He bonds with his son while using PEVs. His family uses them every week. He has an electric longboard that can go up to 40mph but states he only does that if the area is open and clear, no pedestrians around. When he sees people, he slows down. He thinks rider etiquette should be key, not banning PEVs. It's his way to let off steam.

- Sarah Schober - 807 W. Ridge Street.

Sarah shares that she is a one-wheeler and got hooked on it by her nephew in Utah. She said one wheels started out West and it's coming East. One wheel is classified as electric skateboards in Michigan. They are non-motorized. Sarah shares that Zach and Shawn covered everything she would also share and does not want to be redundant. She added that she especially loves how earth friendly they are. She wants to bring safety awareness to the community and not discriminate against transportation preferences. She says that the one-wheel community brings people together in a positive way.

- James Reinhart - 530 E. Hewitt Ave.

He discussed concern he has about the intersection of Spruce and Hewitt. He and other families that have children walking to Graveraet have school safety concerns. James shares that there have been no incidences of kids getting hit at the intersection, but close calls. He shows videos and pictures from that intersection and explains that even when people are parked legally, kids must step into the crosswalk to see if a car is coming.

He shares that the more safety is in place, the less likely something will happen. James is especially concerned about this intersection during the winter due to decreased visibility from snowbanks. When people are parked illegally at this intersection it also contributes to additional safety concerns for the students walking to school. He requests that the committee asks for a 4 Way Stop there in accordance with Safe Routes to School.

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- Captain Finkbeiner explained how it works to get something approved and who needs to be consulted - city planners, engineers, etc.
- Angela gives an example of a previous TPAC decision that Evan Bonsall initiated and asked if the committee could work in that same way.
- Committee members seem unsure if there are specific steps that need to take place before voting on a committee or community member's concern. Captain Finkbeiner stated he would look into the voting process for the next meeting.
- Captain Finkbeiner spoke with Zack about current policies and city ordinances. Zack shared additional conversations he had with Corporal Seth Bjorne and Sean Hobbins. Zack stated that the patrolman who informed him of the city ordinance was very friendly and helpful. It was a good interaction, and no citation was issued. Zack said that Sean said it is the current city law and patrol officers can enforce it.

Captain Finkbeiner mentioned the bike patrol that Marquette City Police Department has, and that they are great officers that work with informing the community of city ordinances. Captain Finkbeiner shared that it is not the MPDs goal to issue a bunch of citations to community members. Zach again references Ordinance 707 that MQT passed in May 2022. He has an issue with that ordinance. Zach wants clarity on which committee he is supposed to bring that issue to. Angela notes that the Traffic-Parking Advisory Committee cannot vote on an issue that the City Commission currently has in place as a city ordinance.

Barb wonders if the bike path is even something that the TPAC addresses or if that is a different city committee. Thought it might be the Parks and Rec Board. Shared with the community members that TPAC would investigate that.

Zack shared that he would attend all the committee meetings. If it is TPAC that addresses the bike path, Barb said we would put it on the agenda for the next meeting. Orville asked for a copy of Ordinance 707 and Zack shared a printed copy of it.

VII. Old Business: None

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James Reinhart shares that he lived in Ann Arbor when they were initiating a similar ordinance, and there was a lot of focus on educating the community of the ordinance and reason for it at the beginning.

Orville shared that he is concerned that the sign reminders to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalks were taken down. Captain Finkbeiner explained why the city of

Marquette took them down - that the state police said the reminder signs send a confusing message to pedestrians and motorists alike. That it implies that pedestrians have the right-of-way in a crosswalk.

Angela requests clarity on if the city of Marquette has adopted Michigan's Uniform Traffic Code from 2002. Captain Finkbeiner shares that the city did adopt that code, but he is not sure if they adopted all parts of it. Angela shares that the wording of the pedestrian crosswalk law in Michigan's Uniform Traffic Code, if fully adopted, should allow for signs and reminders for vehicles to yield to pedestrians within a crosswalk.

Angela could not get her internet to work to pull up the wording of the Uniform Traffic Code law on pedestrian crosswalks.

Barb acknowledges the law is confusing in the state of Michigan and recommends putting it on the agenda for the next meeting when she has examples of Traverse City and Ann Arbor pedestrian crosswalk laws.

5. Multi-Use Bike Path Complaints - table for next meeting as it was thoroughly discussed during public comments and TPAC needs additional information. The committee in charge of the bike path needs to discuss specific steps to bike path traffic safety and signage.
Zack offered to help with any education campaign and will work for free.
Mentions the Fresh Coast Float that recently occurred.
6. Angela spoke about community education ideas for traffic in the city, specifically for all users of roadways. Specifically mentioned a back-to-school community education focus for crosswalks, as James has already spoken about. For anyone that wasn't at the previous meeting, shares that her son was hit by a car in a crosswalk on his way to Bothwell middle school in May. As a teacher, parent, community member who lives in a very walkable bikeable city, would like to see more safety awareness to community members since recent posts from Barb indicate that many citizens are not aware of the current pedestrian crosswalk law

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Orville - Questions for Dave Stensaas about the recent City Planning Meeting regarding the cul-de-sac on McMillan Street. Discussed possible need for added signage, no parking, etc. Decided to discuss at the next TPAC meeting when Dave attends.

Angela - No additional comments

Al - needed to leave the meeting early and was no longer in attendance.

X. Motion to Adjourn: 7:03pm Jodi motioned to adjourn the meeting and Orville seconded the motion.

XI. Time of Adjournment: 7:03 pm

Approved by Chairman: _____

Date: 9/20/22

Accepted by Committee Liaison: _____

Date: 9/20/22