



City of Newport News

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMISSION

CAPT. W. T. STURGIS
VICE CHAIRMAN

MELVIN L. BAILEY
CHAIRMAN

DAVID T. WILKINSON
SECRETARY-COORDINATOR

Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2008

Ft. Eustis Club – Wheelhouse Room

Attendees

Mel Bailey –Chairman
Captain Trent Sturgis – Vice Chairman
David T. Wilkinson – Secretary-Coordinator
Captain Tom Phillips – Fire Department
Dick Tyson – NN Public Schools
Edward Curran – Citizen
Karl Dahlen – Citizen
Jean Montane – Citizen
John Gergley – Citizen (Arrived at appointed time, but meeting convened early)

I. Call to order

- A. Welcome and call to order by Chairman Melvin L. Bailey
- B. Announced new commissioner, Mr. Gergely and Ms. Thomas
- C. Email from Commissioner Morgan (10/01/08) not able to attend

II. Old Business

- A. Review and adoption of August 21, 2008 Meeting Minutes
 - Moved by Edward Curran; seconded by Vice Chairman Trent Sturgis
- B. Appointment of Commissioners
 - Capt. Jim Eacho was officially appointment at the September Council meeting however, he will not be able to fulfill his obligation. He will get a written endorsement from the Fire Chief to recommend Capt. Phillips, the current Fire Dept. Safety Officer.

III. New Business

- A. Recommended Legislative package based on the 2008 Military Civilian Transportation Safety Workshop
 - Recommendations from the Workshop
 1. Enact a primary enforcement safety belt law and provide penalties for each unbelted occupant
 2. Oppose any type of repeal of the mandatory helmet law now in effect.
 3. Restrict cell phone use while driving.



City of Newport News

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMISSION

CAPT. W. T. STURGIS
VICE CHAIRMAN

MELVIN L. BAILEY
CHAIRMAN

DAVID T. WILKINSON
SECRETARY-COORDINATOR

4. Require drivers age 67 and older to renew driver's license at DMV customer service centers every renewal period.
 5. HB438: A Learner's permit shall not be issued to a minor who has had five unexcused school absences within 6 months of the permit application.
 6. HB1281: Any person with a 3rd DUI conviction shall display a mandatory yellow/red motor vehicle license for 5 years.
 7. Reenact the Habitual Offender Law
 8. Mandatory ignition interlocks for two or more DUI offenses.
- Recommendations Going Before City Council
(Moved by Edward Curran; seconded by Vice Chairman Trent Sturgis)
 1. Enact a primary enforcement safety belt law and provide penalties for each unbelted occupant
 2. Oppose any type of repeal of the mandatory helmet law now in effect.
 3. Reenact the Habitual Offender Law
 4. Mandatory ignition interlocks for two or more DUI offenses.

Action Item: Memo to City Council concerning the legislative package

B. Subcommittee Reports

- Safety Award Subcommittee
 1. Look at how many awards will be given out
 2. Establish criteria for determining the winners
 3. Set schedule for January and February to give out awards
 4. Proposal presented to Commission by the February meeting

IV. Other Business

- A. Recommendations for other items/ presentations for the Commission's review at upcoming meetings.
 - East/West proposed crossover
 - STARS
 - Problem with the Fire Department at Oyster Point and Jefferson Avenue, which according to Chairman Melvin Bailey is that this intersection becomes so congested that the Fire Department has a hard time getting out of their station. There has to be an alternative to aid the fire department in being able to respond to calls especially during rush hour and the holiday season.
- B. Letter from citizen Hubbard regarding CNU and student safety
 - Concerned the idea of raising the speed limit from 25mph to 45mph.



City of Newport News

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMISSION

CAPT. W. T. STURGIS
VICE CHAIRMAN

MELVIN L. BAILEY
CHAIRMAN

DAVID T. WILKINSON
SECRETARY-COORDINATOR

- CNU wants the speed limit to stay at 25mph
- The City is looking at implementing a 35mph speed limit from J. Clyde Morris to Prince Drew. Afterwards the speed limit would be 45mph. This will only go into effect once the construction has been completed in this area.
- After the patterns on Warwick Boulevard have been stabilized, the Department of engineering will set out counters to determine the 85th percentile to determine the best speed for this stretch of road.
- A study was done that determined that a pedestrian walkover from the Christopher Newport Village to the campus was not warranted.
- Old Dominion University has a 35mph speed limit and has no walkover passes, but does not seem to have as big of an issue as CNU.
- Chairman Melvin Bailey does not believe that there is anything else the Commission can do.

V. Adjourned: 1:50pm