

CITY OF ONEIDA
TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD
January 17th, 2017
2:00 p.m.

MEMBERS:

ATTENDED

Public Safety Commissioner Mike West	Yes
Lt. Paul Thompson	Yes
Fire Department Rep Rob Cowles	No
City Engineer Jon Rauscher	No
Robert Anderson, traffic advisor	Yes
Bruce Burke, Chairman	Yes
Donald White, Vice Chairman	Yes
Barbara Buehner	No
Shirley Lomery	Yes
Kathy Malinowski	Yes
Jim Sweet	Yes
Michael Whipple	No
Kipp Hicks	No
Jim Dalzell	Yes

Minutes By:

Deirdre A. Service

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 pm by Chairman Bruce Burke.

Copies of the minutes from the October meeting were distributed prior to the meeting date. A motion was made by Shirley Lomery and seconded by Jim Sweet to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

Jim Sweet was sworn in for another term of office.

1. The first and only agenda item was for discussion on the signage for the intersection of Main Street and Madison Street. A letter was sent from Tari Peters, see attached, regarding an accident involving her father and the possibility of additional signage in this area. After a considerable amount of discussion it was decided that the signage that was already in and near the intersection was sufficient and Bob Anderson assured the members of the board that the crosswalks in this intersection would get painted in the spring. Unfortunately the accident in question was not due to a lack of signage but at the fault of the driver of the vehicle.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm. Motion to adjourn made by Shirley Lomery and seconded by Jim Sweet. Next meeting to be on April 18th, 2017 at 2pm.

January 4, 2017

Dear Mayor Matzke,

I am not sure you are aware of this, but my father, Jack Wallace, was struck by a car on Friday, December 9th walking in the crosswalk on Madison St around four in the afternoon. He suffered five fractured ribs and is still recovering trying to regain his strength.

I write this because for a long time I have thought this to be a dangerous corner of town to be crossing the street. There have been many occasions where I have been crossing on Main St. and have had drivers hardly slow down let alone stop at the stop light before making a right hand turn going north on Main St.. Also, multiple drivers sail right through the light when it has already turned to red. Police cars included.

I'm not sure if it is possible to erect signs near the light to give pedestrians in crosswalk the right of way. In today's world, it may not be observed, and it would certainly need to be enforced. As you are aware, there are many young families that live downtown and cross the street all of the time.

We were lucky, we could have been planning a funeral. I don't want to see anyone else injured or worse.

Regards,

Tari Peters

Tari Peters

RECEIVED
JAN 09 2017
City Clerk

Traffic Safety Advisory Board
City of Oneida
109 North Main Street
Oneida, New York 13421
February 1, 2017

Tari Peters
C/o Hinman's Jewelers
115 Main Street
Oneida, New York 13421

Dear Ms. Peters:

The Oneida Traffic Safety Advisory Board met on January 17th and one item of business to be considered was your letter to Mayor Matzke, about the December accident involving your father.

You requested a review of possible signage which might improve awareness of pedestrian rights, especially in the crosswalks.

We reviewed and discussed possible solutions, under the leadership of both the Police Department and the City Sign Shop.

Current advice on signs and traffic devices from the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (Federal) and the New York State Supplement to MUTCO as well as Standard Highway Signs (Federal) and New York State Signs is that too many signs may be confusing, or worse, a cause for signs being ignored.

The fact remains that a driver is responsible for understanding that it is not lawful to proceed through a red light and that a pedestrian in a crosswalk has the right of way.

While our considered decision is to take no action, we remain open to suggestions, especially as you are so thoroughly familiar with the Madison and Main intersection.

Each and every member of our Board is thankful that the outcome of the accident was not worse and that you father is up an active, once again.

Sincerely,

Bruce J. Burke
Chair
Oneida City Traffic Safety Advisory Board

Cc: Mayor Matzke
Acting Chief of Police Thompson
Fire Chief Salarno
Public Safety Commissioner West