

Community Advisory Committee Minutes
June 14, 2023

Committee Attendees: Bill Corey, Bill Lewis Evan Smith, Cameron Moody, Ken Niles, Ethel Pacheco, David Churchill, Sandra Schwarzbart, Sheila Footer, Joe Bucherer

Regrets: Cheryl Tyler, Village Council Liaison

The meeting was held via Zoom and called to order at 6:00 pm.

Topics:

- The Committee selected Joe Bucherer as Chair and Ken Niles as Vice Chair.
- Committee Roundtable:
 - Committee members noted continued long staging times of the trash dumpsters on Willard Ave. for Willard Towers. There was appreciation for the use of orange cones as markers for traffic notice, however, the dumpsters are taking up a traffic lane for long periods.
 - 4620 roof work will be completed soon alleviating congestion on N. Park Ave.
 - There is a tree on Shoemaker Farm Lane that has balloons in the canopy. Committee requests that they be removed to maintain the appearance of the Village.
 - Town hall is scheduled for 6/15 at the Willoughby to discuss the sprinkler mandate with Delegates Korman and Wolek.
- Recommendations:
 - The Committee continues to urge attention to its recommendations regarding traffic safety. The placement of a speed hump and lighted pedestrian sign at the intersection of Hills Plaza and S. Park Ave. has been successful in slowing traffic. Several locations for bumps and / or signs have been highlighted, such as N Park and Willard Ave., Shoemaker and Willard Ave., and Shoemaker and N. Park.
 - Village resident Al Muller spoke to the Committee and provided his remarks made to Council during the June 12, 2023, meeting (attached).
 - Village resident Steve Klitzman (comments attached) asked the Committee to consider a recommendation to modify the shuttle bus route to include 5530 Wisconsin and 5454 Wisconsin for the purpose of access of residents to doctors, therapists, and other businesses in those buildings. People with ambulatory and other issues have difficulty getting to those buildings from current stops. Given the traffic on Wisconsin Ave, especially during work commute hours, the Committee suggests stops be considered during the hours of 10 am – 3 pm Monday to Friday for scheduling purposes.
 - Of note, the Committee has observed stops made by Uber, Lyft, and Metro Access at these same locations. These are “No Standing” zones but drop off is not precluded.
 - Al Muller (notes attached) discussed the need to provide additional pet litter bags and receptacles throughout the Village. His suggestion is to have the buildings provide these near their buildings. Additionally, the bags provided by the Village do not have a receptacle nearby. The Committee agrees considering maintaining the appearance of the Village.
 - The Committee discussed issues related to the 2033 Sprinkler Mandate. Costs estimates from the Willoughby and Elizabeth were provided. It was noted that the Willoughby

was scheduled to have a Town Hall on the matter on 6/22 from 7 pm – 8:30 pm. With added visibility to the details of the mandate, and the extreme cost level in the millions of dollars, the Committee requests that Village Council take an active role in coordination and communication given the Village wide impact on cost, fees, potential sales, and resident stability.

- The Presidents of the buildings meet on a periodic basis to discuss common issues. A survey of their street facing cameras is being done to understand the number present, potential for gaps in visibility, and funding needs to bring old equipment up to date. Historically Council has suggested that its best means for surveillance is to rely on the video capability of the buildings. This is true and the Committee agrees, however, the buildings may not have appropriate funding for camera expansion or the required systems to upgrade technology for storage or handling of more cameras. Once completed an outline will be provided to Village Council with a potential suggestion to help the buildings fund STREET FACING cameras in partnership to provide improved and additional monitoring of the neighborhood, as well as building funds for infrastructure needs.

The next Committee meeting will be held on July 5th at 6 pm via Zoom.

Resident Communications:

Steve Klitzman:

Thanks for speaking earlier today about adding a new business item to the upcoming monthly meeting of the Village Council Advisory Committee on June 14 at 6 pm.

As we mentioned, the item is to propose an additional stop for the Village Shuttle Bus on the side street, Somerset Terrace, around the corner from 5530 Wisconsin Ave, a frequently visited medical arts building in our neighborhood.

In support, we note that:

1. Many residents of the Village visit doctors, dentists, hearing aid specialists and other medical professionals in 5530 Wisconsin Ave.
2. Many of these residents have mobility issues making it very difficult, if not impossible, to walk to 5530 for their appointments.
3. The current shuttle bus stops closest to 5530 are the Village Center and Sunrise/Brighton Gardens but neither stop is a convenient walk, especially for those many Village residents with mobility or other disabilities.
4. We understand that as recently as two years ago authorities rejected a proposal to add 5454 Wisconsin Ave, the "Barlow Building," to the shuttle bus route because it would require stopping on Wisconsin Ave. which is also a state highway.
5. This is why we propose adding a stop not at 5530 Wisconsin Ave., but on nearby Somerset Terrace, just a few hundred feet around the corner from 5530. This private/public but not state road is just south of the Somerset House.
6. At this point, we respectfully urge the CAC to recommend this proposal to the Council in principle to help the many senior citizens in the Village gain easier access to their medical appointments in 5530 Wisconsin Ave.
7. We further urge the CAC to recommend to the Council that it investigate support for the route addition, possibly via a Village survey.
8. Then if the Council finds community support, the CAC further recommends the Council investigate the feasibility of the proposed stop, including any necessary clearances and changes in the route, scheduling, and timing of the Village Shuttle Bus.

Please let us know if you'd like us to speak very briefly about this proposal during your June 14 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Klitzman and Justine Lisser
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Al Muller:

COMMENTS TO THE COUNCIL, JUNE 12, 2023

Al Muller, The Elizabeth: Good evening Councilmembers. For the record, I would like your thoughts on two important issues for the Village.

First: [✱]there have been increasing concerns about pedestrian safety at two intersections: North Park and Friendship Boulevard, and North Park and Shoemaker Farm Lane, near the Gourmet Market. Residents from both the Carleton and The Elizabeth have informed me of incidents where they were almost struck by cars coming downhill who did not stop for the stop signs or the pedestrian brick pathway. Residents sitting at the bus stop near the Center entrance have counted numerous cars going through that intersection without stopping. The speed hump placed at the intersection of Hills Plaza and South Park Avenues was intended to be the first of a few such speed controls, only awaiting winter snow to see how the snowplows would impact the "hump". There was no snow this year, but obviously surrounding communities have had no snowplow problems, and any safety problem seems to me more important than an unproven concern about snowplow damage. Councilmember comments for the record, if not now, at the next meeting?

→ *Would you consider adding speed humps at these intersections to improve pedestrian safety?*

Second, there have been increasing comments about trash and dog waste along North Park Avenue. My suggestion is that a few trash receptacles could help greatly, for example: replacement of one near the Gourmet Market, addition of ones at the top of Shoemaker Farm Lane, near the Willoughby bench, and next to the dog poop bag container across the way. I would also suggest that each residential building be asked to provide a poop bag stand near their entranceway... as done presently by the Highlands and The Carleton, if they permit dog residents. Councilmember comments, if not now, at the next meeting?

Please attach my comments to the Minutes.