

COLUMBIA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD

Meeting Minutes of November 26, 2018

Members Present:

Fred Schultz, Gallatin, Chairman
Dave Chapman, Executive Secretary
Linda Swartz, Taghkanic, Secretary
Henry Swartz, Chatham
John Leach, Stockport
Bernie Meyer, Canaan

Pete Harvey, Kinderhook
Steve Williams, Ancram
Evan Eisenhandler, NYOL
Rick Frick, NYSDOT
Paul Strobel, NYSP
Sgt. Shane Bower, HPD

Regrets: Joe Leto

Chairman Fred Schultz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Reading & Approval of Minutes:

Henry Swartz motioned to accept the Minutes of September 27, 2018, as presented; seconded by Pete Harvey, and carried.

Communications:

- DOT has approved lower speed limits on State Route 203 Town of Kinderhook/Chatham town line to the Village of Chatham/Town of Ghent line to the Town of Kinderhook/Village of Valatie.

Old Business:

- The roundabout on Route 23/9G east of the Rip VanWinkle Bridge is now opened; a little different from other roundabouts and somewhat confusing.
- The issue with the STOP signs at the intersection of Church Road and CR 19 in Livingston, as mentioned by Joe Leto at the September 27 meeting, has been addressed by the County Highway Department.
- New TV ad calling attention to flagger safety. Dave said that Cornell has an excellent Flagger Safety Program.
- Dave handed out a print out of an on-line discussion relating to mud that was deposited on a roadway by vehicles. Is there an exemption for agricultural vehicles? How soon must it be cleaned up? (Reference to Vehicle & Traffic Law 1220.B.1. contained in the discussion does not appear to be correct.)

New Business:

- Bernie reports that the Bristol Bridge in Canaan has been reopened.
- Per an article in the Register Star, Columbia County has contracted with an Albany firm to repair several bridges in 2019 including: Adams Crossing Road, New Lebanon; CR 13, Old Chatham; CR 28, Niverville; Shufelt Road, Ghent; CR 7, Spencertown; CR 2, Clermont; Buckwheat Road, Livingston; CR 2, Gallatin; Highbridge Road, Chatham.
- Evan Eisenhandler has accepted a position as Law Enforcement Liaison with the Federal Railroad Administration. He will continue serving on the TSB and his email is not changed. He gave out copies of DVDs for emergency responders and law enforcement personnel.
- Bernie Meyer told Evan that a railroad representative has told him that his town trucks are not permitted to plow snow within 30' of grade crossings. Evan said that if the gates are up, it's okay to plow. Evan gave Bernie his business card and will help Bernie work this out. Bernie also asked for guidance about paving at tracks (specifically Flints Crossing Road).
- Dave introduced Paul Strobel from the NYSP.
- Matt Larabee told Dave that he might not be on the TSB after the first of the year.
- Someone in Austerlitz asked Dave about serving on the TSB; Dave told him to speak to the Town Supervisor. Austerlitz's current rep, Matt Verenazi, has not been a regular presence at meetings.
- Shane Bower asked about the child safety seat installation and inspection program. John Leach said that he also had been asked by a neighbor about the program. People can contact the Hudson Police Department (518-828-3388) or the Columbia County Sheriff's Office (518-828-3344) to set up an appointment.

Meeting Schedule for 2019: January 24, March 28, May 23 (Annual Dinner Meeting), July 25, September 26, November 21 (third Thursday)

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Bernie Meyer made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Shane Bower and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.