

STAC Meeting Feb. 13, 2024

Attending: Lou Klepner, Al Bruno, Jorge Castagnola, Doug Myer, Ray Mayone, Diane Mueller, Vince Buono, Mary McNamara, Kevin Brown, Vinnie Mclaughlin, some Leeanne Thornton

Absent: Barbara Budik, Glenn Jones, Carl Mueller

The original January 7, 2024 meeting was rescheduled three times due to inclement weather. Lou Klepner was unanimously elected chairperson. The minutes of the Nov.14, 2023 meeting were accepted. There was no one from the public for the public comment period. Lou welcomed new Village members Kevin Brown and Vinnie Mclaughlin. Leeanne gave an update of the state of the county address by Jen Metzger that dealt with transportation issues. Emphasis on a public awareness program on distracted driving. Potential design changes by DOT and an update on the 2009 County Complete Streets program to protect pedestrians, cyclists and drivers. Another new program the "Nature Bus" will expand services to state parks and the Walk Way Over the Hudson by free services to make county hiking trails and parks more accessible. With regard to safety issues Lou and Leeanne presented some statistics: Over the past 10 years 239 crashes, 1 fatality, 5 pedestrian crashes, 3 bicycle crashes- 20 % resulting in personal injury. Motor vehicles- failure to yield the right of way, improper lane use following too closely. Lane width reduction is likely to lower vehicle speed, and should width reduction will reduce the improper use of shoulders as a passing lane. Lou and Leeanne updated the TAP grant application process that the town and village submitted in January for a side path pedestrian walkway along the west side of Rte. 9W from the intersection of Rte.32/9W to the Village line by the Trinity Church. Ray Mayone updated the committee on town highway dept. activities. Water issues dealing with access to hydrants at Riccardi School, trucks having to pump up water 500 feet- need for mutual aid. A new town truck was received but the electrical system in it was incorrectly installed and had to be towed to a dealer for repair. There's a drop of 6 inches on Dave Elliot Rd. that will be repaired, the sweeper truck has been serviced and he has 2 crews out daily on the job. Salt will now be delivered directly to the town garage and will be cheaper. Village update- Vinnie asked if the village could do a "snow emergency" type of notice instead of the winter no parking on the streets until March 15 which is a

challenge to find off street parking for many. Vince Buono was asked see about lighting adjustment at the new Apartments, 53 units on North St. Al B. recommended a new parking study be done that counted parking use on a seasonal basis. Mary commented that sidewalks were recommended by the county planning board when they reviewed the North St. project but the village overruled the idea. Lou asked how do we get things right for future developments? One suggestion was to put aside land for "paper sidewalks". Jorge reported that the Police Dept. was making progress on the 9W pedestrian accident. Lou suggested that UCAT and public access to pick up points could be looked at by residents. A suggestion was made to have some type of public survey to see where commuters would like to see additional bus stops. Vinnie volunteered to reach out to Dennis Doyle to discuss #6 Bus rte. for UCAT. Jorge suggested that an information booth at events, school activities, PTO, to promote "See and Be Seen" – kiosks? There was also a suggestion to have reflective bands or vests be distributed by the county to sites where DSS residents could pick one up to wear when walking along a highway with no sidewalks. For example Rte.32 to 212 to Price Chopper from the Comfort Inn. Note- at the UCTC meeting on Feb. 27th, Leeanne learned that the Y and UCAT have reflectors available for folks. The next meeting will be March 12th at 6:30 Bldg. Dept. conference room.

Notes Submitted by Leeanne Thornton