

Minutes COP Committee



October 27, 2010
Township of Puslinch Office

Attendance

Matthew Bulmer, Ron Van Ooteghem, Sue Fielding, Sandra Solomon, Vaughan Norman, Dave Haley, Frank Montgomerie, Ted Laws, Paul Anderson

Regrets: Glenna Smith, Doug Smith, Holly Franklin

Meeting commenced at 7:00 pm

Opening Remarks

In Glenna's absence, Ron had been asked to chair the meeting. Minute-taking delegated to Sandra.

- Ron welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated Sue on her election win.
- He thanked Matthew for all he had done while on Council and expressed gratitude that he would continue on with COP – Aberfoyle traffic calming needed his expertise.
- Sue also thanked Matthew for the time they had spent together on Council
- She would miss his intelligence and hard work
- Sue enjoyed working on the COP Committee and hoped to continue to do so
- Glenna had received a letter from Holly regarding her resignation from the Pioneer
- Changes to her job description had made it impossible for her to carry on
- She would still continue to contribute to the COP Committee
- Matthew said that, while campaigning, he had found the need to explain the COP Committee role in the community
- This may need to be communicated to all in the Township
- The minutes of September 29th meeting were reviewed and a couple of small changes were required. Changes were approved and the minutes will be resubmitted.

Business Arising from Minutes

Concession 7 Traffic Concerns:

Glenna had sent a letter to Council requesting that "No Truck" signs be erected. This was required before the OPP could do enforcement.

- Matthew said that recently Council had received compliance reports from gravel companies and there was no notification of changes to haul routes
- Given the concerns raised on Concession 7, this seemed to be inconsistent
- Ron said that maybe the gravel companies needed to do a better job of reporting the positive things that are being done to deal with trucker safety and the communication that is being done with trucking companies to ensure proper haul routes are being followed.
- They do severely discipline drivers that stray from regulated haul routes
- Hard to police all the time
- Vaughan had contacted the OPP (Bob Urdil) regarding using one of the new OPP speed monitors on Concession 7
- He had left several messages explaining exactly where the monitor was needed and possibly it had been done
- He would continue to try to get an answer

Road Watch Program:

Dave had spoken with Keith Robb and he had given direction regarding appropriate topics for different groups:

- **Seniors** – Winter Driving, Drive Wise, Distracted Driving, Drinking and Driving, Farm Vehicles
- **Student Drivers** – Winter Driving, Graduated Licencing, Distracted Driving, Drinking and Driving, Farm Vehicles
- **Women's Groups** – Winter Driving, Women Travelling Alone, Distracted Driving, Drinking and Driving, Farm Vehicles
- **Service Clubs** - Winter Driving, Drive Wise, Graduated Licencing, Women Travelling Alone, Distracted Driving, Drinking and Driving, Farm Vehicles
- **School Bus Drivers** – Rules of the Road (for buses), Bus Safety, Bus Patrollers and Evacuation
- Ron mentioned that the Winter Driving presentation was being given at the Arkell Senior's Luncheon on November 16th
- Glenna requested that a short (5 – 10 minutes) Road Watch presentation be done (Dave/Sandra)
- Dave to see if Keith Robb is available – though he may be already
- Ron reminded Dave that Ted had requested a Road Watch presentation for Mini Lakes in May, 2011
- Matthew had been at a meeting recently in Centre Wellington and had passed on the contact information for reporting to an individual
- Discussion revolved around requirements for the whole of Wellington County to report incidents
- Anybody in the County can use the current reporting system that we have set up (roadwatch.ca/RWReportingTemplate.aspx?ReportingGroup=Wellington) to **report** an incident.
- In order to **promote** the program in a specific Township, that Township would need to register with Road Watch Canada
- Sandra presented a sample of the handout that will be given to other COP Committees at the November 6th COP Conference in Kenilworth
- She also presented paper copies of the PowerPoint slide show presentation
- Both of these will be amended to reflect the reporting and registration conclusions, above

Township Speed Limit Changes (Update):

Sue reported that Jim had reported back to Council and felt it would be a political decision

- Matthew felt that roads should be looked at individually to see if the specific road was correctly designated for the traffic it was carrying
- Traffic patterns had changed over time and needed to be addressed
- Vaughan suggested that we look at what Townships in the Niagara Peninsula area had done as all their Township roads seemed to be 60k
- Matthew said that, as this was a complaint-driven safety issue, accident and insurance reports may not give indications of the problems
- The complaints did not necessarily stem from accidents but concern there would be one
- Matthew said any study would cost money and it would be a decision for the new Council
- Sue will bring it up at the appropriate time with the new Council
- She also hoped the new Council would address the closing of Concession 1 at Highway 6 South
- There seemed to be support for this at the Mayoral All Candidate meeting

Speed Monitor:

There are still areas where the speed monitor needs to go but, as the weather is deteriorating, Vaughan felt that they would have to be dealt with in the spring.

- Still to be done: Victoria Road at Gilmour Road; Morrision area; Watson Road, south of 34
- May have already been done by OPP: Concession 7 and Arkell Road (Vaughan to check)

OPP Report:

Mike was not present so there was no report.

Santa Clause Parade (Nov 28th):

Dave has taken on the organization:

- He will contact MADD and the Car Store about attending
- Has suggested that the Speed Monitor be pulled behind a Golf Cart (Paul to check for one)
- Dave will check with Larry to see if he can get his truck for the parade
- Road Watch balloons – Sue, Sandra and Frank will take care of getting them inflated with helium and attach ribbons
- These will be used to decorate the truck along with ribbons to camouflage the ropes holding the Road Watch sign in place on the truck
- When the parade reaches the entrance way to the community centre, the balloons will be handed out to children along the parade route
- Logistically it will be impossible to do enough balloons for every child
- Road Watch brochures, Road Watch pencils will be handed out along the route
- Dave will approach Subway to see if they would be interested in sponsoring more pencils
- Sue will check to see what funds are left in the COP budget for this year
- Dave will contact Keith Robb to see if we can get the OPP horses again
- Frank suggested handing out Breast Cancer ribbons – no decision

COP Conference (Nov 6th)

Ron reminded everyone that they should have registered by October 22nd

- Ted wanted to attend and would phone Susan Gray to register
- As Glenna would not be attending and Doug would be leaving early, Vaughan will give a short presentation on COP as a whole
- Need to get more COP brochures from Glenna (Sandra)
- Sandra will do a very brief mention of Road Watch and hand out prepared packages.

Other Business

- Sue mentioned that the new siren-activated device at Mini Lakes had come up at Council and was well received
- Paul felt there was still a need for sensor lights at County Road 34 and Victoria Road
- This would cost money and would be a decision for the new Council

New Business

Paul had received an e-mail (forwarded to him by a legal firm) supposedly from the OPP

- The letter alerted everyone to vandalism at gas pumps involving HIV-filled syringes and requested that the information be forwarded to “everyone you know”.
- The content of the letter raised suspicions that it was a hoax
- The letter stated that 17 incidents had occurred in the County recently
- If this were true, it would have been well-publicized in the newspapers
- Paul will forward the e-mail to Matthew who has volunteered to do some forensic checking on the source.

Meeting ended at 8:30 pm

Next Meeting is January 26, 2011 at 7:00 pm at the Township Office.