

**City of Kalamazoo  
TRAFFIC BOARD  
Minutes  
September 13, 2018**

Stockbridge Main Conference Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
415 E. Stockbridge, Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Traffic Board Members Present: James Baker, Director of Public Services  
Matt Huber, Public Safety  
Kathleen Reilly, CP&D

Members Excused: Jeff Chamberlain, Deputy City Manager  
Jim Ritsema, City Manager

City Staff: Karen Rutherford, Recording Secretary

Guests: Gary Hetrick, Resident  
Ed Genesis, Criminal Justice Reform  
Patricia Griffin, ESPK, Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo  
Gregory Milliken, Bronson Healthcare Group  
David Thomas, Public Safety  
Richard Wheeler, Resident

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Baker called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Mr. Baker conducted roll call and determined that the aforementioned members were present and quorum existed. Mr. Huber supported by Ms. Reilly, made a motion to excuse the aforementioned members. With a voice vote, the motion was carried.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

There were no changes to the September 13, 2018 Agenda. Mr. Huber supported by Ms. Reilly, made a motion to approve the September 13, 2018 Agenda. With a voice vote, the motion was carried.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (August 9, 2018)**

There were no changes to the August 9, 2018 Traffic Board Minutes. Mr. Huber supported by Ms. Reilly, made a motion to approve the August 9, 2018 Traffic Board Minutes. With a voice vote, the motion was carried.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**Parking Petition - No Parking on Broadway Ave. from Crosswinds Dr. to Winchell Ave.**

- Mr. Baker reported the parking petition results were 56.2% in favor of the No Parking signs to be placed on Broadway Ave. from Crosswinds Dr. to Winchell Ave.
- Mr. Wheeler commented on the dangers of children who walk in the area to go to school. He reports the employees of the school are parking on both sides of the street which narrows the street. When parents or residents of the neighborhood try to get down the street it creates a hazard. In the winter it creates another problem where only one car can pass at a time. Also, young children are darting in/out between cars.
- Mr. Wheeler reports there are three parking lots for all the employees of the school which is more than adequate for the employees to park. He stated the churches on either side of the school have offered to allow parking in their parking lots. Mr. Wheeler requests no parking on Broadway from Crosswinds to Winchell on both sides of the street from 7:00AM to 5:00PM, Monday through Friday. On weekends and holidays the people can park on either side the street.
- Mr. Wheeler reports the crossing guard was nearly hit five times because of all the congestion of vehicles as students are dropped off or picked up.
- Gary Hetrick commented that the real hazard for him is during the arrival and dismissal time. Children are crossing the street, passing between cars, they do not watch or listen. He reports he has witnessed children darting across the street from between cars. It's a very dangerous pedestrian/traffic situation.
- Mr. Wheeler commented without the cars there it will open up the area making it more visible.
- Mr. Huber asked if the school is aware of the churches offer to allow parking in their parking lots. Mr. Wheeler stated yes and he has met with the principle of the school and the principle has been contacted by the assistant superintendent and superintendent of the schools. He adds that all these people have been involved with him in getting here today to have the petition finalized.
- Mr. Baker asked for a motion to approve the parking petition of no parking on Broadway Ave. from Crosswinds Dr. to Winchell Ave. during the hours of 7:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday.
- **Mr. Huber, supported by Mr. Thomas, made a motion to approve the parking petition of no parking on Broadway Ave. from Crosswinds Dr. to Winchell Ave. during the hours of 7:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. With a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.**

#### **Bronson Healthcare Group – John Street – Parking**

- Mr. Baker asked if there was a parking petition for the John Street Parking.
- Mr. Milliken stated he did not know a petition was required. Mr. Milliken presented a map of the John Street area. He stated Bronson Healthcare Group owns a medical practice at 820 John St. Across the street to the north is a parking lot owned by Bronson

Healthcare Group. To the south is a parking lot owned by Western Medical School. He noted John St. currently has unsigned on-street parking.

- Mr. Milliken stated currently to the south of 820 John St. Bronson, who own the property, is doing a project to build a surface parking lot. This construction has tied up some of the parking. In order to insure parking is available to patients who are coming in, he is asking to take the spaces that are marked on the map on John St. and making them 1-hour parking spaces. This will discourage staff from parking in these spaces and give patients parking when they arrive for their visits.
- Mr. Baker stated one hour parking would be difficult to enforce. Mr. Milliken stated he is not married to that time but whatever the board suggested would be acceptable.
- Mr. Baker stated without parking meters it would be very difficult to monitor.
- Mr. Baker stated a parking petition would be the route to take to make the parking change. There are only 3 property owners in this area. Mr. Baker recommends getting a petition signed by the property owners. Mr. Baker and Mr. Huber recommend making them 4-hour parking spaces.
- Mr. Baker stated Ms. Rutherford can send a parking petition to Mr. Milliken. Mr. Milliken asked if the parking petition would then be on next month's agenda. Mr. Baker stated it would be.
- Mr. Milliken stated because this is a matter of timing, he will work on a Plan B because the project will be completed by November 2018. He stated he will get in touch with us if he decides to follow through with a petition.

## **6. OLD BUSINESS**

### **CD12 Project – Proposed New Layout of Edwards and Water Street**

- Mr. Baker stated this has been resolved.

### **Vine Neighborhood Parking Discussion**

- Mr. Baker stated Brian Burlingham is working to get the information gathered. Mr. Baker explained Mr. Burlingham is creating a map that shows every street in the Vine Neighborhood and what parking options are available for those streets with the traffic flows.

### **Wildlife Signage**

- Mr. Baker stated they are working with the City Attorney's Office to get the exact wording that will reflect it is unlawful to purposely run over deer, ducks, geese, wildlife, etc.
- Mr. Baker asked Public Safety if they have any contact with a game warden or someone at DNR who can help with the correct wording of the signage.

### **Speed Bumps**

- Mr. Baker stated they have the speed bumps and are looking into how to mount them. He stated he plans to implement them sometime this fall on Paterson, just west of Holland, on Academy, north of Monroe, and on Maple St, before curve. Mr. Baker would like to see them in place through the winter, if possible. This is a pilot test because of the need to slow down drivers. Mr. Baker stated if they are happy with them, they may place asphalt speed pumps permanently.

## **7. MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS OR CONCERNS**

- Mr. Ed Genesis stated he is a resident of the Northside of Kalamazoo and introduced himself as the community organizer with Michigan United. He introduced his wife, Patrese Griffin who is Vice Chair of Fair Housing and a Realtor. Mr. Genesis stated there are no standing, no stopping, no parking signs in his neighborhood. He stated these signs were placed when illegal drug activity was extremely high in the area but this does not reflect the community any longer. He stated the signs were placed in the early 1990's and the area is not what it was then. He stated the signs are an equity issue. Mr. Genesis stated if someone parks on the street to drop his kids off they are being harassed.
- Ms. Griffin stated her children's coaches drop the kids off and this should not be a reason to get pulled over but it is. This is a quality of life issue for her. She states it is not like it used to be. They have lived there of 15 years and they would like to see the signs taken down.
- Ms. Griffin stated she understands the petition has to be signed by fifty percent of the property owners to change the parking signs, but the property owners do not live in the area. Most of the residents in the area are not property owners. She stated she feels their opinions do not matter since they are renters and not property owners and feels this is a problem in the design of the petition process.
- Ms. Griffin states the no standing, no stopping, no parking signs are industrial signs for industrial areas and how they made it to a residential area, she does not know. Ms. Griffin states she is a realtor and when she shows homes in the area and prospective buyers sees 6 signs in one block they question her. She tells them there used to be a problem but not any longer. Their response is if there use to be a problem why are the signs still there. Ms. Griffin stated she has blind neighbors in the area who are being dropped off and are being harassed.
- Mr. Genesis stated he knows and understand why the signs were placed. He commented that the officers stop many people in the area, even when people are working on their homes or dropping their kids off at school.
- Ms. Griffin said she can get the petition with fifty percent signature for their block but they are concerned with some of the other areas where the signs are posted.
- Mr. Baker stated they have a similar situation in the Vine Neighborhood. The signs the have been placed over several years resulting in several different parking signs in that neighborhood. They are in the process of studying the area to find out what will work best, what are the options, and how change it. Mr. Baker stated this is something they can do in the Northside as well by identifying all the streets, identifying what is currently posted, and

determine what the options are for those streets. Mr. Baker recommends getting in touch with NACD, Northside Neighborhood Association, and work with Public Safety on how to develop this.

- Ms. Griffin is the representative of the Share Prosperity Kalamazoo. Ms. Reilly asked if Mothers of Hope are on the Northside. Mr. Genesis stated they are on the Northside and have recently got a house on Ada St. for substance abuse.
- Ms. Griffin asked when working with the people on the Northside to keep in mind, there is more than just one organization for the people of the Northside, different people have different interests and collectively it comes together and you will get a complete picture of everyone.
- Mr. Genesis stated they are not against having no parking signs in the neighborhood.

#### 8. NEXT MEETING

- Date: Thursday, October 11, 2018 at 2:00 P.M, 415 E. Stockbridge, Kalamazoo, Stockbridge Main Conference Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor
- Agenda items submitted to Karen Rutherford ([rutherfordk@kalamazoocity.org](mailto:rutherfordk@kalamazoocity.org)) by October 3, 2018.

#### Adjourn

- Mr. Baker asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- **Ms. Huber supported by Ms. Reilly, made a motion to approve to adjourn the meeting. With a voice vote, the motion was carried.**
- The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Submitted by:   
Recording Secretary

Date: 10-11-18

Approved by:   
Staff Liaison

Date: 10-11-18

# On Broadway From Crosswinds to Winchell

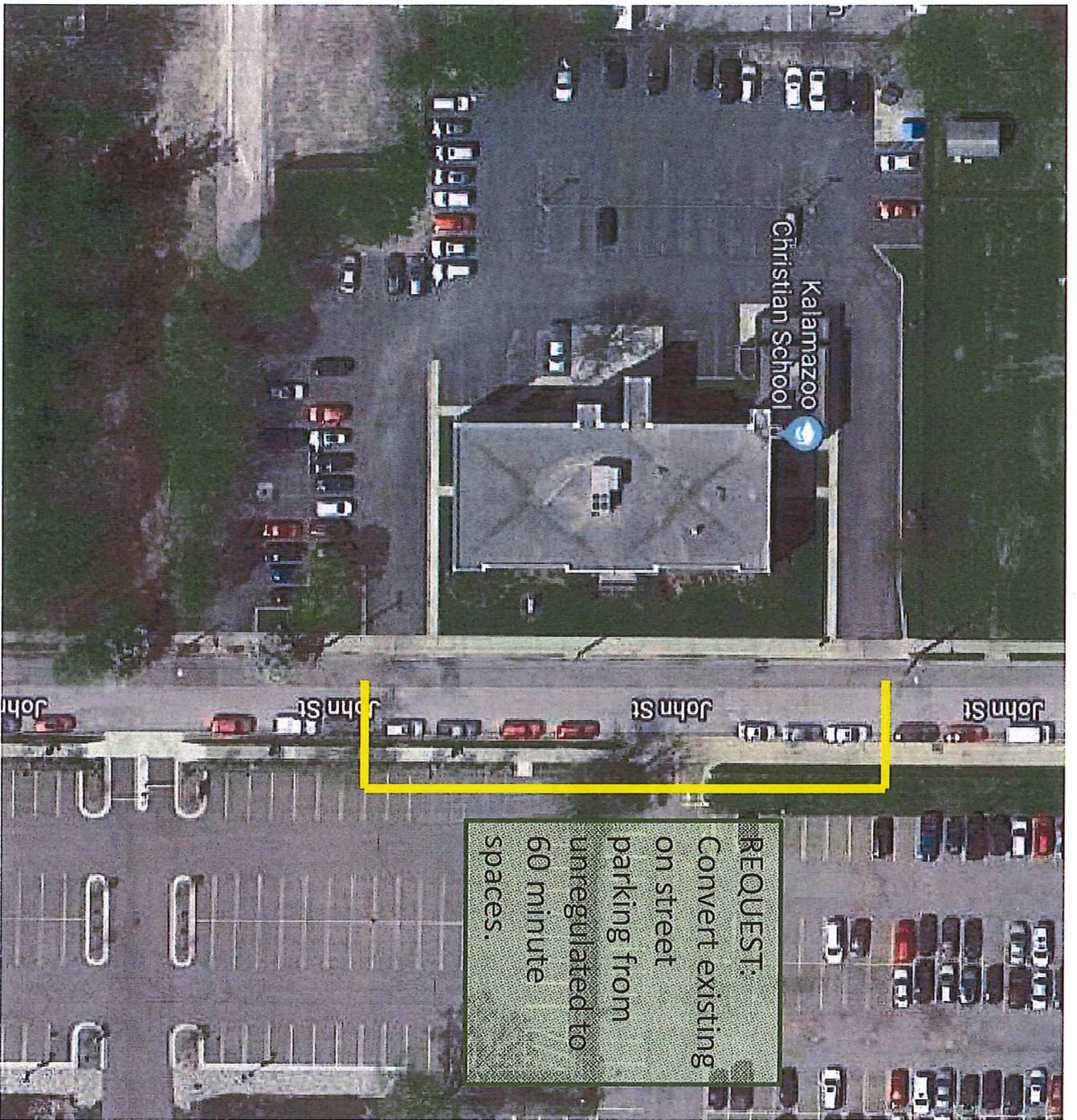
## -Request No Parking

### PETITION

We the undersigned wish to petition the City of Kalamazoo to install "SIGN TYPE" signs on the DIRECTION side of ROAD NAME between CROSS STREET and CROSS STREET. If approved, signs will be posted approximately 100-200 feet apart depending on property lines, trees, and at the discretion of the City Traffic Engineer.

Property Owner Name	Address	Signature
Richard J Wheeler	2409 Acorn Lane	Richard Wheeler
Patricia Wheeler	2409 Acorn Lane	Patricia Wheeler
ALLAN LARSEN	2325 Crosswind Dr.	Allan R Larsen
Pete LaBran	2325 Crosswind Dr	Pete M. LaBran
Christa Mcmurray	5434 Tice Ave	Christa Mcmurray
Maradyn	2400 Winchell	Thyrid CCC Admin
ARTHUR BRILL	2133 BROADWAY	Arthur Brill
MARY S. BRILL	2133 BROADWAY	Mary S. Brill
Jenny Hetrick	2125 Broadway	Jenny Hetrick
GARY HETRICK	2125 Broadway	G. H. H. CO.
STEVE BARKER	2107 BROADWAY	Steve Barker
Patricia Mitchell	2200 Broadway	Patricia Mitchell
Pat O'Brien	2212 Broadway	Pat O'Brien
Eda Rosetta	2222 Broadway	Eda Rosetta





**REQUEST:**  
Convert existing  
on street  
parking from  
unregulated to  
60 minute  
spaces.

