

## **Safety Health & Service Committee Meeting**

**Monday, January 27, 2003**

The Safety Health and Service Committee met in council chambers at 6:45 P.M. to discuss crosswalks in the downtown business district. Present were committee members Rob Maurer, Art Cicconetti and Chairman Sam Hitchcock. Guests present were Councilwoman Sandy Cox, Mayor Ron Brodzinski, Service Director Gary Espenschied, General Services Superintendent Fred Neff, Dean Myers, Safety Director Greg Popham, and police chief Jeff Urban.

Chairman Hitchcock reminded committee members and guests that he was concerned about the safety of pedestrian traffic in the downtown area and the apparent disregard for pedestrian right-of-way in the crosswalks by motorists. At an earlier meeting, Hitchcock had requested that General Services research the requirements for signs and/or pavement markings needed to be in place to enforce the present crosswalk ordinance, 371.01. Hitchcock also mentioned that he had contacted the Law Director, Mike Johnson for advice on enforcement of the ordinance and Mike indicated that the existing ordinance was sufficient if the crosswalks were adequately marked. Hitchcock also reported that Chief Urban would agree to enforce the ordinance if proper markings and signs were in place.

Fred Neff told the committee that it would be relatively inexpensive to place signs notifying drivers of the existing crosswalk locations and Dean Myers said that they already had signs at the city garage that could be used. Fred said that stop bars were going to be placed on the roadways sometime in April as part of the current signalization project and that the crosswalks would be marked at that time.

Hitchcock noted that when markings and signs were in place, he would meet with Chief Urban and they would put together a news release warning motorists that the crosswalk ordinance was going to be enforced. The release would be followed with a period of time where warnings would be issued after which citations would be written.

Rob Maurer made a motion that General Services be advised to move forward with the sign and pavement markings so that enforcement efforts could begin. Art Cicconetti seconded and the vote was unanimous.

At 7:02 P.M., with no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam R. Hitchcock, Chairman  
SAFETY, HEALTH & SERVICE COMMITTEE  
CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA