

**Buckingham Lake Neighborhood Association (BLNA)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**December 13, 2016**

A meeting was held with Albany Chief of Police Brendan Cox to discuss traffic issues with the BLNA at the Albany Elks Lodge #49, 25 South Allen Street, Albany, New York on December 13, 2016. The meeting was called to order by Dan Sleasman, President of the Buckingham Lake Neighborhood Association (BLNA), at 7:06 p.m.

D. Sleasman welcomed those in attendance and began the meeting by providing some background information regarding traffic issues in the neighborhood. Dan Sleasman cited traffic issues on Buckingham Drive, the increase in traffic volume (for example, 56,000 cars coming through Friebel to Buckingham in one month), stop signs being run, speed of cars, etc. Dan Sleasman asked that all speakers give name and street of residence and invited those in attendance to speak regarding the change of Friebel to one way to begin the meeting.

Joseph Igoe spoke and commented that he has had lots of negative calls from neighbors since the Friebel change to one way, especially from those living on Tampa Avenue.

James D. of Krumkill Avenue spoke about safety being his biggest concern. He said that he is concerned about the speed of the motorists, people running stop signs and going the wrong way down Friebel.

Ellen B. of Friebel said she did not know about the one way until she saw it. She said it's good for the Friebel residents but bad for Tampa Avenue residents. She recommended having a left turn on Tampa onto Buckingham Drive with arrows which might solve the problem.

Chief Cox stated that whatever changes are made, enforcement is the main issue.

Barb E. of Friebel said she was not told about the Friebel one way either. She also said there needs to be a better solution for residents to get onto New Scotland Avenue.

Howard M. of Davis Court and Friebel spoke and said that taking a left turn on Krumkill Avenue is the most difficult. Maybe a stop sign at Tampa Avenue or a light at Krumkill Avenue and Friebel would solve the problem.

Jerry L. of Tampa Avenue said the traffic on Tampa is terrible now due to the Friebel one way. He also said the light on Krumkill at Route 85 is much longer than the light on Buckingham Drive at Route 85, which makes people want to go down Buckingham Drive to get on Route 85 and not get on it from Krumkill Avenue. Chief Cox stated that the Department of Transportation monitors that light and it is based on traffic flow.

Laurie G. of Buckingham Drive said that traffic is lined up all day and night outside her house. She stated that it is almost impossible for her to get in or out of her house.

Jake of Tampa Avenue suggested slowing the traffic down to 15 mph on Tampa Avenue and Friebel and asked if that was possible. Chief Cox said that perhaps we could get a “home rule” to lower the speed, or get speed humps on those roads.

Lisa B. of Tampa Avenue stated that the traffic is too much on those little roads (Tampa and Friebel). There’s simply too much traffic, she said.

Tiana of Tampa Avenue asked what can be done to help educate drivers? Chief Cox said that the BLNA has brought up working with the hospitals to help educate them about being better drivers in the neighborhoods and he encouraged the BLNA to do that.

Mark G. of Friebel and Buckingham Drive suggested that the city look at creating a new bypass. He stated that every morning he has to wait a very long time just to get out of his driveway because there is just too much traffic. Something big needs to be done to change this, like a new bypass.

Martin A. of Buckingham Drive said that he is shocked that such a small street has a highway entrance and recommended we look into talking with the city about creating a new bypass.

Jerry Farrell of Assembly Member Patricia Fahey’s office said that they are very aware of the traffic issues in the neighborhood and will work with the BLNA to make changes.

Joe M. of Buckingham Drive said the crosswalk signs get destroyed all the time by the traffic, especially the commercial traffic coming down the street. More enforcement is needed for this type of traffic, especially citations given.

Dick A. of Kakely asked can’t we divert people to other areas to get on the highway?

Carol S. of Buckingham Drive said that on Black Friday 8 cars were stopped by the police who were patrolling the area that day. She stated that if we had more of a police presence, the drivers would slow down.

Joe K. of Holmesdale recommended we ask the people in attendance who live on Tampa Avenue if they recommend making it a one way. He said it is important to get a decision on that, since the numbers show 12,000 cars going down that street currently per day.

Dan Sleasman asked those in attendance who live on Tampa Avenue to vote on whether they would like Tampa Avenue to become a one way. The vote was unanimous in favor of Tampa Avenue becoming a one way street.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Margie A. Sheehan, Secretary of the BLNA, 2016 term.

