

PARKING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Minutes

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

7:15 a.m.

Anoka Public Safety Center Training Room

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jim Batters, Chair
Pete Turok

Jim Neilson, Vice Chair
Steve Jenson

Gregory Bortnem
Borgie Bonthuis

Gary Fahnhorst

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bob Weil

STAFF PRESENT: Phil Johanson, Police Chief

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jim Batters called the meeting to order at 7:15 a.m.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Pete Turok made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes as written. Gregory Bortnem seconded that motion and it was passed by unanimous vote.

OATH OF OFFICE

Chief Johanson distributed the Oath of Office forms to the three board members that had been reappointed by the City Council, that being Jim Neilson, Steve Jenson, and Gregory Bortnem. Oath of Office forms were also given to Borgie Bonthuis and Gary Fahnhorst as they had been appointed by their commissions to be representatives on the Parking Advisory Board. Chief Johanson had all five members of the PAB raise their right hand and the Oath of Office was read. All five members affirmed the Oath of Office and then signed the form. Administrative Assistant Julie Splettstoesser notarized all five of those Oath of Office forms. The Chief will deliver those to City Clerk Amy Oehlers after the meeting.

ELECTION OF PAB OFFICERS

After discussion by the PAB, Pete Turok made a motion to keep Jim Batters as the Chairperson of the PAB and Jim Neilson as the Vice Chair of the PAB. Chairperson Jim Batters asked the Board if there were any other nominations. There were no other nominations. Gregory Bortnem seconded Pete Turok's motion to keep Jim Batters as the Chair and Jim Neilson as Vice Chair of the PAB. A vote was called and it passed by unanimous vote.

GOALS FOR 2015 AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2014

Members of the board unanimously decided that all of the 2014 goals had been met or were currently being worked on.

The 2014 goals are as follows:

1. Monitor and adjust permit-parking stalls and time limit parking stalls in the downtown area
– to include the review of handicapped parking spaces in the downtown parking area.

2. Review parking changes in the area around the south central business district due to the reuse of the Sandburg building.
3. Monitor business changes and keep parking scheme updated to match business climate.
4. Assist city staff in getting empty permit parking stalls filled & leased.
5. Consider the study requests from citizens for parking changes and traffic control changes.
6. Review parking on 7th Ave. south from Main St. to East River Road.

The PAB discussed the 2015 goals and decided to keep #1 - #5 exactly the same, and to remove #6, review parking on 7th Avenue south from Main Street to East River Road. The PAB decided that since the turn-back of that road back to the City the parking scheme in that area seems to be working well at this point in time and needs no further review. The PAB did want to add one more item to the 2015 goals, that being to monitor the intersection of Greenhaven Road and the Highway 10 exit ramp to see if additional traffic control measures are needed at that intersection.

The 2015 goals are as follows:

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2. Review parking changes in the area around the south central business district due to the reuse of the Sandburg building.
3. Monitor business changes and keep parking scheme updated to match business climate.
4. Assist city staff in getting empty permit parking stalls filled & leased.
5. Consider the study requests from citizens for parking changes and traffic control changes.
6. Monitor the Greenhaven Road and Highway 10 exit ramps

A motion to approve the 2015 goals as stated in these minutes was made by Steve Jenson and seconded by Gary Fahnhorst. It was passed by unanimous vote.

NO LOITERING OR TRESPASSING SIGNAGE IN PARKING RAMP STAIRWELLS

Steve Jenson brought forward a photograph of a sign that was posted in the stairwell of a city parking ramp in the city of Duluth. The sign states "No Loitering or Sleeping in Stairwells. Violators Will Be Prosecuted For Trespassing". Steve Jenson asked the PAB if he thought it would be advantageous for this signage to be added in the two downtown city parking ramp stairwells. Steve Jenson said that there have been issues with homeless people sleeping in the stairwells in the past. He thought the signage might help the police department in both preventing homeless people from sleeping in the stairwells and also assist in the potential prosecution of habitual offenders from sleeping in the stairwells. Chief Johanson said that some of the parking ramp stairwells did have "No Loitering" painted on the brick walls inside of the stairwells, but the Chief thought that an actual sign would be more prominent and noticeable and might help with the prevention of people sleeping in a stairwell. After discussion by the PAB, a motion was made by Borgie Bonthuis to add the signs that say "No Loitering or Sleeping in Stairwells" to the stairwells of the two city owned downtown parking ramps. That motion was seconded by Gregory Bortnem and passed by unanimous vote.

7. PARKING ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

Chief Johanson reviewed the summary of overnight parking tickets issued over the last six years. The number of parking tickets issued in 2014 was consistent with parking tickets issued in previous years. The PAB did not have any questions or comments on that item.

MISCELLANEOUS

No miscellaneous items.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Gregory Bortnem and seconded by Jim Neilson. It was passed by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 a.m.

Respectfully,

Chief Philip Johanson

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 7:15 a.m. at the Public Safety Training Room.