



Parking Committee

of the Transportation and Parking Commission

City of Northampton

www.northamptonma.gov/tpc

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Room 10, City Hall, 210 Main Street, Northampton

MEMBERS

Holly Mott - Chair
Citizen

Wayne Feiden
Director of Planning and
Sustainability

Adam Novitt
Citizen

Susan Timberlake
Citizen

Marc Warner
Citizen

1. Members present: Holly Mott, Chair; Adam Novitt; Susan Timberlake; Wayne Feiden, Director of Planning and Sustainability. Members absent: Marc Warner
2. Meeting Called to Order at 5:05 pm.
3. Announcement of Audio/Video Recording of Meeting: NONE.
4. **Approval of Minutes** of April 17, 2014. Susan Timberlake made a motion to approve the minutes of 4/17/14 with the addition of the list of members present and the location specifics of the meeting in the header. Wayne Feiden seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved. This committee rotates minute taking. Susan Timberlake volunteered to take the 5/8/14 minutes. Holly Mott asked that they be completed early since the timeframe to the next meeting is short.
5. **Public Comment:** Jonathan Gottsche of 12 Bright Street explained some of the parking issues on his street and on a nearby street.
 - A. Bright Street: It is one of the closest non-metered parking streets from the center of Northampton. It is off King Street and many cars (employees, event overflow, business customers) park on his street for free all day or evening. Like many residents of streets close to the center business area- they often get all the overflow of cars blocking driveways, preventing snow-plowing and taking up all the options for the residents. Several Committee members commented that this is happening on 5 or 6 streets (that we know about) and that this is an important concern.
 - B. North Street: Mr. Gottsche also provided photographs of what North Street looked like on Pride Saturday. With the recent renovations legally parked cars force the traffic out across the yellow line. There were several near misses and clearly not room for 2 way traffic. His photographs were very concerning. Holly Mott asked Mr. Gottsche to write up his concerns about Bright Street and email them to her for the Committee's records. Holly Mott will forward the hard copy photographs that he provided to the TPC for their review.
6. **Parking Committee "Parking Guiding Principles" document** – Adam Novitt drafted Parking Principles document (with 4 bullets) for the committee based on previous discussions. Wayne Feiden and others suggested adding the topic of integration of parking with transportation as a system. It was suggested it be a subheading under Item 2, or a separate item. Wayne Feiden also suggested that ticketing as an outcome be identified as

one of the worst outcomes. The document will be revised by Adam Novitt and recirculated for a planned discussion at the next meeting. The goal is to forward the document to the TPC for their review and changes when the Parking Committee feels it is ready.

7. **Time lapse photography Parking Committee study of Main Street (Update):** Adam Novitt reported that one of the time lapse cameras had been moved, and neither of the two cameras recorded properly. He is not sure what caused the error. Adam Novitt will set up the cameras again this coming week (perhaps starting 5/13/14- running for 2 weeks). It was clarified that NCTV is not involved.
8. **Citizen parking complaints procedure** – Holly Mott reported that she has had some discussions with Ryan O'Donnell, the chair of the TPC. They talked about complaints and the existing mechanisms to handle them. They are sorting out our role as a Committee. Susan Timberlake asked how many different City Departments field parking concerns, who actually logs them and ultimately addresses them? (Unknown processes at this time). Wayne Feiden asked what the Parking Committee had as goals and given those goals, how long should it be in existence. Susan Timberlake mentioned that the last TPC meeting it was stated that there is a parking assessment that is about to be released by the City's EDLEW (spelling) committee. The members of the Parking Committee were unclear what that study is. Wayne Feiden thought it might be a study by David Pomerantz. There were two hard copy handouts under this section:
 - Parking Change Request Application (Draft 4/28/14)
 - MGL Chapter 63 of the Acts of 1992: Ss312-119 (Northampton allowed by Massachusetts Legislature to establish resident only parking). The Committee members believe there is only one location
9. **Next steps for Parking Committee:** It was agreed that Holly would continue her discussions with the Chair of TPC. We will convene in three weeks to keep the time lapse photography parking studies as our top priority. Adam Novitt left the meeting due to another commitment. Susan Timberlake suggested that if no one place is capturing parking complaints- perhaps this Parking Committee can write up any parking complaints received in such a way that they can be conveyed to the Transportation and Parking Commission. This would mean creating a report format that would distill the issue but keep enough detail such that tracking would be easy. For example: residential neighborhoods inundated with unrelated parking and we would have the 5 cases we have so far with address and contact information. Holly Mott and Wayne Feiden thought it could be helpful to do that. Holly Mott will ask the Chair of the TPC if it would be helpful to them.
10. **New business:** *(Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed).*
NONE.
11. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

NOTE: *The next meeting is scheduled in only three weeks: Thursday May 29th 2014 in Room 10, City Hall, 210 Main Street.*

Contact:
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