

City of Birmingham
ADVISORY PARKING COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

Held Remotely Via Zoom And Telephone Access
Wednesday, October 7, 2020

MINUTES

These are the minutes of the Advisory Parking Committee ("APC") regular meeting held on Wednesday, October 7, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by ~~Chairwoman~~ **Chairman**¹ Al Vaitas.

1. Rollcall

Present: Chairman Al Vaitas
Vice-Chairwoman Gayle Champagne
Richard Astrein
Steven Kalczynski
Lisa Krueger (arrived 7:40 a.m.)
Judith Paskiewicz (arrived 8:10 a.m.)
~~Lisa Silverman~~²
Jennifer Yert (arrived 7:33 a.m.)

Absent: Anne Honhart
~~Lisa Silverman~~³

SP+ Parking: Catherine Burch
Sara Dixon
Jay O'Dell

Administration: Scott Grewe, Patrol Commander
Mike Albrecht, Police Commander
Eric Brunk, IT Director
Laura Eichenhorn, Transcriptionist
Ingrid Tighe, BSD Director

Patrol Commander Scott Grewe introduced himself and explained that former Assistant City Manager Gunter resigned her position with the City approximately two weeks prior to the present APC meeting. He stated he would be temporarily replacing ACM Gunter as the Staff liaison to the APC until a more permanent replacement was found.

¹ As amended at the November 4, 2020 meeting.

² As amended at the November 4, 2020 meeting.

³ As amended at the November 4, 2020 meeting.

2. Recognition Of Guests

None.

3. Review of the Agenda

4. Approval Of Minutes: Meeting Of March 4, 2020

Motion by Mr. Astrein

Seconded by Ms. Champagne to approve the minutes of the regular APC meeting of March 4, 2020 as submitted.

Motion carried, 6-0.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Astrein, Vaitas, Champagne, Krueger, Kalczynski, Yert

Nays: None

5. Approval Of Minutes: Meetings Of August 19, 2020

Motion by Mr. Astrein

Seconded by Ms. Yert to approve the minutes of the regular APC meeting of August 19, 2020 as submitted.

Motion carried, 5-0.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Astrein, Champagne, Krueger, Kalczynski, Yert

Nays: None

Abstain: Vaitas

6. Alternative Parking Management Structures – RFP Update

Patrol Cmdr. Grewe reviewed the item. He explained that the RFP for this item was pulled and that Nelson-Nygaard would be conducting a study of parking management in the City instead.

In reply to Chairman Vaitas, Patrol Cmdr. Grewe agreed that data like parking usage would not be likely to normalize in the near future, and that this study would not be based on variables like parking counts that would be more affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. He emphasized that this study was just a question of whether the system of parking management overall within the City should be updated.

Both Chairman Vaitas and Mr. Astrein said the City already seemed to have an excellent parking system management.

Chairman Vaitas expressed some confusion regarding why this study was necessary at this time given how well the parking system is already managed.

Patrol Cmdr. Grewe said that to the best of his knowledge, members of the City Commission just wanted an opportunity to review all of the City's possible parking management options since a price comparison and evaluation had not been conducted in some time.

Mr. Kalczynski noted the loss of parking revenues due to the Covid-19 pandemic and asked if the City was factoring that revenue loss in to planning projects or studies during the pandemic.

Patrol Cmdr. Grewe cited the City's healthy balance in the Parking Fund and confirmed that any potential expenditures are being assessed in light of the economic impact of the pandemic.

7. BSD Holiday Marketing Campaign

BSD Director Tighe presented the item.

Mr. Astrein added that the 2020 Holiday Marketing Campaign would be a particularly important one for retailers in the City. He noted that road construction in the City has lowered the amount of traffic that would otherwise be passing by retail establishments, and that in addition the effects of the pandemic have had wildly detrimental effects on customers' willingness to shop in-person. He said he could not think of a more crucial time to authorize this expenditure.

Chairman Vaitas concurred with Mr. Astrein.

Motion by Mr. Astrein

Seconded by Mr. Kalczynski to recommend an expenditure of \$25,000 from the City's parking fund to be used by the BSD for its Holiday Marketing Campaign.

Motion carried, 6-0.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas: Astrein, Kalczynski, Vaitas, Champagne, Krueger, Yert

Nays: None

8. Master Plan Review – Status Review

Patrol Cmdr. Grewe reviewed the item.

Ms. Yert said the APC had not yet discussed residential permit parking.

Cmdr. Grewe informed the APC that residential permit parking had been discussed as part of the larger Master Plan Draft discussion by the Multi-Modal Transportation Board (MMTB) as well. He reviewed the MMTB's comments and his own recommendations on the topic.

Chairman Vaitas said he believed that Dr. Paskiewicz had wanted to discuss residential permit parking. In light of Dr. Paskiewicz's absence from the present meeting, Chairman Vaitas recommended that the APC delay discussion of that topic until its November 4, 2020 meeting.

Subsequent to its November 2020 discussion he said the APC's comments on the Master Plan Draft could be submitted to the Planning Division.

There was consensus among the APC members to follow Chairman Vaitas' proposal.

Patrol Cmdr. Grewe confirmed that he would bring the item back for discussion at the November 4, 2020 meeting.

9. Meeting Open to the Public for items not on the Agenda

10. Miscellaneous Communications

Patrol Cmdr. Grewe updated the APC regarding:

- Recent parking structure repairs;
- ADA updates to parking spaces around the City; and,
- Re-striping of the parking spaces in the City's parking structures.

He explained that most of the parking spaces in the parking structures would be re-striped within the next few months, but that the ADA spaces in the structures would require further study to ensure their ADA compliance. He said the plan was to re-stripe the ADA spaces in the parking structures in Spring 2021 once any necessary changes have been made to slope grades or measurements.

In reply to Ms. Champagne, Patrol Cmdr. Grewe confirmed he would update the APC on the status of the City's parking meters at the next meeting.

Dr. Paskiewicz stated that she had not been able to join the meeting because an incorrect Zoom meeting ID was provided in the APC emails leading up to the meeting.

Chairman Vaitas and Mr. Astrein said they had found the meeting ID on the first page of the meeting's agenda.

Patrol Cmdr. Grewe apologized for the discrepancy between the Zoom meeting IDs given.

Dr. Paskiewicz noted that Dr. Silverman had the same problem with the meeting IDs given and had sent emails to the APC to that effect during the meeting.

Chairman Vaitas said he would be happy to fill Dr. Paskiewicz in on what had been discussed during the present meeting.

11. Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 4, 2020

12. Adjournment

No further business being evident, the meeting adjourned at 8:16 a.m.

Patrol Commander Scott Grewe

APPROVED