

Approved
PARKING ADVISORY BOARD
June 8, 2009

Randy Hafer√
Scott Wetzel (esc.)
Don Olsen √
Leticia Moore √

Steve Bruggeman √
Bruce Simon√
Nick Blake√

NOTES:

The meeting was called to order at 4:09 p.m. by Randy Hafer. Others present were: Darlene Tussing, Bruce McCandless, Chris Mallow and Kelly Cox.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Darlene Tussing signed in for public comment. Darlene addressed the Board in regards to the possibility of adding accommodations to the Parking garages for bicycles. Darlene stated that she had spoken with David Cary of Lincoln, NE in regards to the additions Lincoln had made to accommodate bicycles in their garages. Darlene stated that Lincoln had spent \$10,000 on accommodating bicycles in their garages. It was suggested that more bike racks also be added around town. Darlene stated that Lincoln used money that was donated from the Health Department, fines received from health regulation violations, and a grant from a local advocacy group. It was also suggested that money may be available from transportation grants. Darlene stated that the Bike/Pedestrian Advisory Committee meets the 4th Tuesday of the month on the 4th floor of the Library. The Committee chair is Kathy Aragon. Darlene gave the Board Kathy's number. The Board can contact Darlene or Kathy for further information in regards to who to talk to for further ideas on where to put additional racks in the downtown area.

Darlene also stated that there were tenants in the downtown area that refused to allow patrons to bring their bicycles into the building and maybe the Board, DBA or other downtown entities would be willing to encourage building owners to allow bikes to be brought into the buildings. Leticia stated that she would speak to security at the Wells Fargo building in regards to them allowing this.

Bruce S. suggested that the Board consider snow removal when deciding where to put bicycle racks as there are currently many obstacles to work around in regards to snow removal and additional bicycle racks could make this process even more difficult than it already is.

Chris was asked to survey the parking garages and see where the best possible places would be to add in bicycle accommodations. Chris stated that he would speak with David Cary in Lincoln, NE and get input from him in regards to this.

REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS:

Approve minutes from May meeting:

Don motioned to approve the minutes from the May 26th meeting. Steve seconded the motion. Bruce S. asked that on the last page of the minutes it be clarified that Bruce McCandless was the person who suggested that rate reviews be done every four to five years. All members were in favor and the motion carried.

Monthly Reports – May 2009:

Chris pointed out that cash sales and park and shop are down again this month. Chris attributes that to the down turn in the economy. The variance in 10-hour permits was again questioned. Chris stated that he would speak with Sooping and get her input as she is the front person for the DBA and the one who sells the permits. Kelly explained that the variance comes from patrons buying more than one month at a time and the permits are not being tracked by the permits sold for each month but only for the month in total. It was suggested that we ask Sooping to track the sales by the individual months sold but it was decided that the way it was being tracked was working.

OLD BUSINESS:

Downtown Parking Study Update:

The executive summary will be available for the City Council to view by Friday June 12th and will be presented to the City Council at the work session on June 15th at 5:30 at the Community Center, 360 N. 23rd St. Chris will forward the executive summary to the Board members as soon as the City Council has received a copy. The Board has asked to have time to review, discuss and have the opportunity to add input to the summary before Rich and Associates makes a final report. This may end up delaying the final report but the Board finds that it is very important that they be allowed to add input before the final report. Additionally the Council will need to be informed of the Board's recommendations. The Board has requested that they have time to review the summary, have the option to go to the presentation and possibly schedule a special meeting before the July regularly scheduled meeting to discuss the executive summary and add their input and recommendations.

Update to Parking Policy:

Randy asked if Chris had done the update to the Garage policy as asked in March's meeting. Chris had done so and made copies for all the members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Parking and Zoning topics for future discussion:

Randy had a list of ideas for the Board to work on. He stated that with the areas around the medical corridor, Dehler Park and the E-BURD being addressed recently, it was a good time to be talking about parking and zoning laws in regards to these areas. Randy stated that he would like to see the Board address some if not all of the topics and possibly even more, come to some type of logical agreement and bring a packet of "big picture" ideas to the Council for review. Randy's list was copied and each member was given the list. Please see attachment A. Randy also had a copy of ordinances from Helena, Great Falls, and Missoula for informational purposes when discussing the possible changes for Billings.

DBA Report:

None to report.

DBP Report:

None to report.

Informational Items:

Randy stated that the Minnesota Ave. proposal has been submitted. The proposal needs to go through Planning, City Council and the Commissioners before it can be approved. Randy and the Old Town Neighbors are hoping this process will be complete by the end of the summer. If so, they will be asking the Parking Division to do the stripping and signage in the fall. This will be proposed to be a parking expense.

On 2nd Ave. N. and N. 29th St. one space has been added on the N.E. corner of 2nd Ave. N and N. 29th as a 10-minute zone and one space added on N. 29th on the S.E. corner closest to 2nd Ave. N. These spaces were added in addition to the spaces that were there by shortening the yellow zones. This was achieved with help and cooperation from Terry Smith and his staff at the Engineering Department, the Parking Division, and the diligence of Bruce S.

Park 4 is currently being painted. A-COM is hoping to have the painting completed by the end of the painting season this year.

The Park 1 elevator is in the process of being replaced. At this time the completion date should be sometime in November 2009.

Chris asked that he alone be the contact for the Parking Board and that his Staff not be used as a point of contact.

Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.