Parking Advisory Council Meeting

November 1st 2013
3:30 p.m.
Business Services Conference Room
Building 8, Room 11106

MINUTES

Members Present: Everett Malcolm (Chair), Paul Mason, Diane Tanner, Ernest Fulton, Ted Hornoi-Centerwall, Barbara Dupuis, Alex Goetz, Christopher Brady, Alin Cepoi, Joseph Turner

Members Absent: Joann Campbell

Others Present: George Androuin (Parking), Neal Fisher (Parking), Virginia Smith (Parking)

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chair Everett Malcolm.

1.) Approval to audio record meeting
   - Everett Malcolm made the Council members aware that the meeting is being recorded to help with accuracy of the minutes.

2.) Approval of the Minutes.
   - Everett Malcolm asked the Council if there were any changes or additions to the October 18th meeting minutes. Ted Hornoi-Centerwall suggested rewording the sentence “Joseph Turner stated it was a good suggestion but Parking Advisory Council would not be over the aspect of shuttles and all that is included with those fees”. Hearing no other changes, minutes were approved.

3.) Types of Permit Categories, number of spaces and sales ratio for 2014/2015
   - Alex Goetz proposed changing the Premium parking in Lot 60 back to Discount parking.
   - Everett Malcolm specified Lot 60 is Alumni Hall, Lot 53 is Hicks Hall, Lot 15 is The Crossings and Lot 15 B is in the University Center Lot and Lot 55 is the Fountains.
   - Everett stated employees with a Discount permit are able to purchase a Premium permit for the department to use when the employees have business to attend on the main campus. Alex Goetz stated employees always have the option to purchase a Premium and Faculty and Staff permits even if they are only parking in areas that require a discount permit. Paul Mason stated employees at Alumni Hall may want to buy a Premium parking permit. Paul gave an example of his secretary spending the extra cost associated with a Premium Permit versus a Discount permit so that she is able to find a parking spot when she returns from lunch, Paul’s point being that some employees may have the preference to purchase a Premium permit and the student’s proposal would take away that option. Alex states that employees at Alumni Hall are required to purchase a Premium permit and it is not advantageous for any other Premium permit holder to park there versus other Premium parking on campus. George Androuin stated Lot 60 has 70 premium parking spots. Paul withdrew his objection in learning that all parking was Premium.
Joseph Turner stated the conversion to Premium Parking in Lot 60 was done without the approval of Parking Advisory Council therefore negating the Council’s objective of the previous year to reduce Premium Permit over sale.

Neal Fisher stated disability spaces are also factored into the premium parking permit ratio. Ernest Fulton asked Neal if the disability space ratio was determined by UNF’s campus needs. Neal responded the disability plan is campus wide and the spaces are located with the closest access to the buildings. Each lot has different amounts of disability spaces and ADA does not require a certain amount of spaces per parking lot. Ted Hornoi-Centerwall asked which lot the disability spots behind the library were associated, to which Neal responded Lot 2 and The Fine Arts Center with a dual use for both buildings.

Alex Goetz stated in general the extra Premium Permits being sold for disability spaces are probably not being utilized and the ratio could be reduced further.

Alex proposed that 70 premium spots in Lot 60 be converted to Discount . Joseph Turner seconded the motion.

Paul Mason asked how one would walk from Alumni Hall onto the core of campus with Joseph Turner responding that one would walk down Kernan through housing. Neal Fisher suggested walking or driving across the street to lot 53 and riding the shuttle on to campus. Alex Goetz added that Lot 53 has never had a problem with filling all parking spaces so overflow from Lot 60 would not be a problem.

Ernest Fulton asked when the council’s decisions would become effective with Everett Malcolm responding fall semester 2014 along with any other fee changes.

Everett Malcolm asked the council for all those in favor of converting 70 Premium spots in Lot 60 to Discount and all were in favor with none opposed and motion passes.

Alex Goetz proposed 15 Premium spots in Lot 55 be converted to Housing Permits because there are many spots being underutilized.

Everett Malcolm stated there has been a waiting list from upper classmen wanting to remain living on campus and therefore it will be something for the council to consider since more vehicles may ultimately be on campus. Christopher Brady confirmed that information means there is a potential need for more housing permits.

Alex Goetz motioned to reduce Lot 55 Premium spaces by 15 spaces and convert them to Housing spaces. Joseph Turner seconded the motion. All are in favor with none opposed and motion passes.

Alex Goetz proposed converting 10 Premium spaces in Lot 17 to Housing and Joseph Turner seconded the motion. All were in favor with none opposed and motion passed.

Everett Malcolm stated citation fees will be voted on at the next November meeting but Vince Smyth and George Androuin do not recommend the Council raising citation fees based on the financials for 2014/2015. Joseph Turner motioned to retain current fees for 2014/2015. Diane Tanner stated the fees are for parking permit fees excluding the daily permit fees.

Paul Mason stated there is a surplus of revenue in the parking account of UNF and the fee rates charge current students for structures that will be built after they are out of the University. Paul added he would like to ultimately reduce the fees but will vote to not raise them. George Androuin stated the government requires monies upfront when building parking garages as a bond. Joseph Turner asked George the current balance of the Parking Account.
George stated it is approximately 13 million but that 2 million will go to the bond payment for the current garages, 8 million will go to the new garage and the remaining 3 million will go towards parking lot and structure improvements and maintenance and the bond for the following year. Joseph Turner asked if the garage must be built with George responding yes. Paul stated when he was on the past committee; the account was at 5 million. George stated if there was not a high amount in the account then the planned garage would not be able to be built which is a main contributor to lack of parking complaints.

Everett Malcolm asked all those in favor of not raising permit fees for 2014/2015, all said I with none opposed and motion passed.

Everett Malcolm stated the Council will need to review citation fees and advised the current Council of the modifications made last year and he stated it has been effective.

4.) Other issues of concern

Joseph Turner asked if Neal Fisher had data of how many people in a year are repeat parking offenders or how many have 4 to 5 or more violations. Joseph suggested to the council waiting to vote on citation fees until the next meeting once the council receives the requested repeat offender data.

Ted Hornoi-Centerwall asked Neal Fisher how Parking currently measures effectiveness of enforcement. Neal stated he can access that data for the Council that will show the past history of the total number of citations written. Neal stated the data can be categorized by lot or violation category and that over the past 5 years data has shown a decrease in citation amounts with the exception of a few places showing a slight increase. Neal stated signage and shuttles has greatly decreased violations. Ted asked Neal what his projection for the future is with Neal responding that he feels violations will be even less in the future with the possibility of reducing labor costs associated with parking patrollers.

Paul Mason stated he has received numerous complaints associated with skateboarders and lack of enforcement. Barbara Dupuis stated University Police has skateboard deployments to enforce the regulations. Paul suggested raising skateboard citation fees to reduce violations. Alex Goetz stated the “stroll it, don’t roll it” campaign seems to be very effective with bicycle riders and that a similar campaign would help with skateboarders. Joseph Turner stated raising the citation fee for that violation is a good idea but if it is not being properly enforced than it will continue to be an issue on the campus. Diane Tanner asked Barbara how many warnings versus citations are given for skateboarders with Barbara stating there are many warnings written and many students take off when an officer tries to write a citation. Alin Cepoi stated the skateboard concerns can be recommended to the safety committee.

Alin Cepoi asked the Council if the citation late fee is still 10 dollars and Neal Fisher stated 10 dollars has been the standard fee for many years. Alex Goetz clarified the late fee is a onetime charge after the initial 14 day window to appeal or pay a citation.

Alex Goetz asked Neal Fisher about the process of collecting payment on citations that are overdue. Neal stated Parking uses a third party collection agency to obtain those debts after numerous failed in office attempts.
• Alex Goetz stated last year the Council discussed assessing a fee to appeal citations to deter false appeals but Shari Shuman rejected that recommendation. Everett Malcolm stated the University has many appeals for different departments across campus and if Parking were to assess a fee then other departments would have to assess’ fees also which may discourage students or employees from justifiable appeals.

• Joseph Turner motioned to table voting on 2014/2015 until the next meeting once Neal Fisher provides the Council with the requested analysis. George Androuin asked Joseph to clarify his request of data. Joseph stated repeat parking offenders by violation code in various categories. Diane Tanner asked Neal if there is data to track the offenders that received warning tickets initially and then went on to receive actual citations regardless of appeals. Joseph also requested an overall data trend report of citations for the year.

• Neal Fisher stated the council was provided with State University System survey of daily parking fees as a guide for voting at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m. Prepared by Virginia Smith