

Parking Advisory Council Meeting

October 30, 2009

2:00 p.m.

Conference Room 1-2000

MINUTES

Members Present: Everett Malcolm (Chair), Marcia Lamkin, Diane Tanner, Gayle Stillson, Alison Cruess, Glenda Kelsey, Mack Volk, Anthony Mack, Matthew Yost, Thomas Blanchard.

Members Absent: Jeff Durfee.

Others Present: Vince Smyth (Auxiliary Services), Cindy Haile (Parking & Transportation Services), Mark Richardson (UPD) and Taylor White (Spinnaker).

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 PM by Chair Everett Malcolm.

1. Approval of Minutes of September 25, 2009.

- The minutes of September 25th meeting were approved as written.

2. Approval of By-laws

- Everett Malcolm reminded that 2008-2009 Parking Advisory Council Members did an extensive review of the By-laws but encouraged current Council Members to share their comments on any potential changes.
- Tom Blanchard made a motion to retain the By-laws in their current form and the motion was approved unanimously by the Council Members.

3. Appointment of Vice- Chair

- Everett Malcolm stated that in case the Chair is absent, a Vice-Chair has the authority to conduct the meetings so they don't have to be cancelled or rescheduled.
- Mack Volk nominated Thomas Blanchard to serve as a Vice-Chair and the Council unanimously approved the nomination.

4. Lot Count Information

- Everett Malcolm explained that lot counts were conducted in mid- September and stated that this time of the year should reflect the highest utilization of all of the parking lots. Everett Malcolm added that lot counts and the time they are

conducted serve as guidance to the Council while discussing types of permit categories, the number of spaces for each category, and sales ratio.

- Mack Volk questioned how the number of available spaces is calculated and Cynthia Haile responded that Parking Services patrollers manually perform the count and depending on the lot utilization they count either empty spaces or the spaces that are filled and subtract the number they come up with from the overall number of spaces. Cynthia Haile added that lots are assigned depending on the number of the patrollers working on a given day.
- Thomas Blanchard questioned if the Night Premium Permit was approved and went into effect and Everett Malcolm was pleased to inform that a new permit category was quite successful as the number of concerns and complaints dropped significantly after the implementation.
- Mack Volk suggested that Parking Services provides a map with lot numbers for the next meeting so it is easier to indicate where the spaces are on campus as not everyone is familiar with the lot location based on its assigned number.

5, 6, 7, 8. Types of Permit Categories, Number of Spaces for Each Category, Sales Ratio for Each Category and Permit Fees for 2010-2011.

- Everett Malcolm suggested making no changes to the permit categories, number of spaces for each category, sales ratio for each category and permit fees for 2010-2011.
- Everett Malcolm explained that the reason for not changing the overall parking structure is that it appears the system currently in place is working well and is satisfactory to the University's community. Everett Malcolm added that he has not received any complaints this academic year which usually was not the case during previous academic years.
- Everett Malcolm informed that the campus population grew by 1,500 people this academic year but pointed out that next year the number of new students will go down which should further improve parking accessibility on campus.
- Everett Malcolm emphasized the fact that the enrollment growth and the economy suggest that there will be no need for any new parking developments (surface lots or additional garage) on campus in the near future.
- Vince Smyth added that from the financial standpoint, retaining parking fees at the current level makes sense as there will be no major parking structure related changes in the upcoming years.
- Vince Smyth noted that Lot 7 will go away due to a new building development and explained that the parking spaces that are located there will have to be absorbed by neighboring parking lots. Vince Smyth elaborated that there is only 76 parking spaces in Lot 7 so the overall number of spaces will only change slightly and the impact on the campus community should be minimal. Vince Smyth added that an effort will be made to re-capture at least some of the spaces as the building project progresses.

- Vince Smyth informed that Designated Permits are not sold out at this point of time and added that designated spaces in Lot 2 are not being fully utilized and a few might be converted to registered guest/ vendor parking spaces.
- Gayle Stillson raised a concern that there might be more faculty members coming to work at the University next year and was afraid that taking designated spaces away might cause a problem.
- Vince Smyth explained that the sales of a given category are based on ratios and if the number of spaces changes so does the amount of permits available for sale. Vince Smyth added that most likely the only number that will slightly decrease is the number of premium spaces.
- Thomas Blanchard felt that more time is needed to observe the changes on campus to be able to accommodate from a parking standpoint and agreed with Everett Malcolm and Vince Smyth that the parking structure should remain unchanged for the 2010-2011 academic year.
- Thomas Blanchard made a motion to leave types of parking permit categories, number of spaces, sales ratios and permit fees for each permit category unchanged for the 2010-2011 academic year. The motion was approved unanimously by the Parking Advisory Council Members.

5. Other Business

- Anthony Mack shared an e-mail he received that presented the Council with difficulties that some individuals, who have a parking permit other than Premium, are experiencing while trying to access Nature Trails or visiting the Parking Services Office (Lot 100). The e-mail stated that Lot 100, being a Premium parking lot, disallows the students with Discount or Housing permits to park their vehicles legally while accessing the trails or visiting Parking Services Office. The author pointed out that while some students are willing to obtain a daily Premium Pass (\$3.00) to be able to park in Lot 100 and have an easier access to the Nature Trails (especially if they want to rent or bring their equipment), current policy disallows that. In addition, the author noted that for the students who come to the Parking Services Office and do not have a Premium parking permit, there are only four time-restricted spaces available that most of the time are occupied anyway, which makes it hard to park legally.
- Vince Smyth thought that the easiest solution to the lack of time-restricted spaces problem presented is to create some additional loading spaces in Lot 100. Vince Smyth added that converting Lot 100 to a Discount lot or allowing Housing students to park in Lot 100 as some suggested in the past would not fix the issue as the lot would become the first to be filled in the morning (Vince Smyth used Lot 14 as an example) and finding a parking space in Lot 100 would be much harder than it is now.
- Everett Malcolm agreed with Vince Smyth and added that loading spaces might be the best solution as parking lot conversion to another permit category would fix one problem but create another of much bigger scale.

6. Next Meeting

- Everett Malcolm reminded that next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 20th at 2: 00pm (Conference Room 1-2000, former A&F Conference Room)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:32 PM. Prepared by Marta Morzynska