

GREAT FALLS PARKING ADVISORY COMMISSION
Minutes of June 20, 2016

The Parking Advisory Commission meeting was called to order by Chair Bill Mintsiveris at 3:02 p.m. in the Planning and Community Development Conference Room of the Civic Center.

Members Present: Bill Mintsiveris, Dave Campbell, Chuck Fulcher, Dave Snuggs

Members Absent: Kenny Volk

Staff Present: Craig Raymond, Director P&CD; Tom Micuda, Deputy Director, P&CD; Connie Tryon, Sr. Admin Assistant, P&CD

Others Present: Fred Burow, City Commissioner; Tena Grigsby, Standard Parking; John Conway, Standard Parking; Cody Proctor, KRTV; Jenn Rowell, Great Falls Tribune; Mitch Tropila

Meeting Minutes: Mr. Campbell motioned to approve the minutes of the May 23rd meeting. Mr. Fulcher seconded. All being in favor, the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 1. SP+ Presentation

Mr. Conway discussed the types of service SP+ provides to the City of Great Falls. He believes an interactive marketing plan, which includes the use of social media, will greatly help the parking program. Bar code technology is expansive and typically less expensive than traditional pay stations used in the parking garages. Multi-space meters are another option to lower overall costs for the parking program. By phasing out the traditional single and double headed meters, the parking program can reduce costs associated with meter maintenance and collection.

Mr. Conway discussed increasing parking rates and introducing areas of free parking. Parking rates could be increased for on street parking, but not in the garages; automating the garages would increase revenue so a rate increase would not be necessary. Incentives for buying meter time in bulk were discussed as well.

Smart phone apps, Park Mobile and Click and Park, were discussed. Click and Park is a parking reservation system while Park Mobile can be integrated with current software used by the parking program for customers to park and pay. License plate recognition (LPR) could reduce enforcement staff and in turn save money for the program. The initial costs are high, but the payback would be rather short- 17 months in most cases. SP+ would be willing to upfront the costs in return for a contract extension.

Mr. Raymond stated that new technology for the parking program is readily available but he is unsure when it would be able to be implemented. Mr. Mintsiveris was unsure as to whether the downtown area is ready for the technology advances SP+ is proposing.

Item 2. Determination of Meters

The group discussed which meters to remove to downsize the parking meter district. There was a map of the meter district and the group determined which meters to remove and which ones to retain. Mr. Mintsiveris said he would like to see all meters removed. Mr. Campbell said he believes the meters encourage people to self-enforce, even if there is no enforcement from SP+.

MOTION: To eliminate certain meters, discussed in relation to the parking meter district map, for one year, and eliminate enforcement signage.

Made by: Mr. Campbell
Second: Mr. Snuggs

VOTE: All being in favor, the motion passed.

Item 3. Ending Saturday Enforcement

MOTION: That the termination of Saturday enforcement be extended through the end of October.

Made by: Mr. Mintsiveris
Second: Mr. Campbell

VOTE: All being in favor, the motion passed.

Item 4. Surveillance Estimate

Mr. Raymond discussed the estimate from Kenco for surveillance cameras in the north and south garages being \$51,000, which does not include any electrical work. There was discussion about the need for more secure garages, especially the south garage. Mr. Raymond said he is continuing research on getting estimates for what it will take to secure both garages, as well as getting a lighting assessment for both garages and the surface lots.

Item 5. Budget Performance Report

There was discussion on the inconsistency of parking boot revenues, and the process that is taken to actually boot a vehicle. There was also discussion on fine collections, and Mr. Raymond explained the collection process has been suspended due to old software, but now that the new software has been implemented the collection process will resume.

OTHER BUSINESS

The next PAC meeting will be July 18th, 2016 at 3 pm. Mr. Raymond encouraged the PAC members to email ideas and proposals to put on the agenda. He said while they are making progress, the reality of the \$10,000 a month revenue loss is what needs to be solved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.