

GREAT FALLS PARKING ADVISORY COMMISSION
Minutes of October 26, 2015

The Parking Advisory Commission (PAC) meeting was called to order by Chair Darren Brown at 3:08 p.m. in the Rainbow Room of the Civic Center. At the start of the meeting, there was no quorum. Dave Abbott arrived at 3:15, and the official meeting began.

Members Present: Darren Brown, Chuck Fulcher, David Campbell, David Abbott

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Connie Rosas, Sr. Admin Asst; Craig Raymond, Director P&CD

Others Present: Bob Kelly, City Commissioner; Tena Grigsby, Standard Parking; Joan Redeen, Downtown Business Improvement District

Meeting Minutes: Meeting minutes were reviewed after Dave Abbott's arrival when a quorum was present. Ms. Redeen said Item 2 under New Business should reflect that it's Great Falls Business Improvement District, not Downtown Business Improvement District; it should read BID not DBID. Mr. Campbell motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Abbott seconded, and all being in favor, the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Old business was discussed without a quorum. Mr. Raymond discussed the Great Falls Rescue Mission Lot 3 Lease Agreement. He said given the current financial situation, he did not agree with the amount of one dollar a year that was proposed by former Deputy Director of P&CD, Lee Nellis. He was able to meet with the Rescue Mission and ultimately work out an agreement for \$500 a year, which was brought to City Commission and approved. The Rescue Mission has taken possession of the parking lot, and will be responsible for their own maintenance.

There was discussion about leasing a parking lot to the Celtic Cowboy, and whether or not it would be beneficial for the other businesses in the area.

NEW BUSINESS

Item 1. Residential Parking Permits

Mr. Raymond said he attended a Neighborhood Council 7 meeting, and there was an individual who had serious concerns about the cost of the residential parking permits being \$25 every two years. Mr. Raymond said he explained to the citizens that there has been an increase in fees program wide, and by doing this, every segment of the parking program is contributing to the financial solution. He said the citizens voiced that they felt they were not getting enough enforcement for that kind of investment, and ultimately the Neighborhood Council made a recommendation to City Commission to keep the enforcement without the fee. City Commission has not yet had any discussion or taken action regarding the recommendation.

Ms. Grigsby said the parking attendants can cover one area every day, thus giving coverage to one particular area once or twice a week. There was more discussion regarding the different areas that have adequate on-street residential parking, and the possibility of suspending the program altogether, thus eliminating the fees and providing no enforcement.

Item 2. Monthly Revenue Report

Mr. Raymond said he and Ms. Grigsby discussed changing the Standard Parking monthly revenue report to add previous year comparisons, which will make it easier to see financial trends.

Mr. Campbell noted that the 2014-15 fiscal year ended \$40,000 over budget, and asked if that was due to the extra elevator maintenance that was done. Mr. Raymond said yes, it was roughly \$120,000 in expenses. It was also noted that the loss of Asurion contributed to the overage.

Item 3. Budget Performance Report

There was no discussion.

Item 4. Parking Advisory Commission Application

Mr. Raymond said Kenny Volk submitted an application to be on the Parking Advisory Commission (PAC), and the PAC has the option to make a recommendation to City Commission, which Mr. Raymond recommend they do.

MOTION: That the Parking Advisory Commission recommend to City Commission the appointment of Kenny Volk.

Made by: Mr. Campbell
Second: Mr. Fulcher

VOTE: All being in favor, the motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Campbell said they should discuss the suspension of parking enforcement on Christmas week.

MOTION: That the Parking Advisory Commission recommend to City Commission that meter enforcement is suspended for the week of December 21st through the 24th.

Mr. Abbott asked what the potential revenue loss would be for that week. Ms. Grigsby said possibly about \$1,500.

Made by: Mr. Campbell
Second: Mr. Abbott

VOTE: All being in favor, the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was discussion on the usage of Passport Parking declining, and how to better market it.

Ms. Redeen said National Parking Day was on Sept. 18, and they will do it again next year on the third Friday of September. She also discussed the parking meter art project she currently has an Eagle Scout working on at no cost. Mr. Raymond said the Rescue Mission is also getting their parking lot renovated by the Eagle Scouts.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.