

CITY OF TYBEE PARKING COMMITTEE

MINUTES: July 28, 2010

ATTENDEES:

Council representatives: Wanda Doyle, Bill Garbett, Paul Wolff

Staff representatives: Diane Schleicher, Mary Hogan, Jonathan Lynn, Chantel Morton, Pete Ryerson, Joe Wilson

GUEST(S):

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Paul made a motion to approve the June 23 Parking Committee minutes. Wanda seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

I. Shuttle Service

Chantel reported an update from March regarding meetings with Coastal Regional Commissions about Coastal Regional Coaches. It is a park and ride program where people could park and ride to Tybee. Her representative has met with Savannah's Parking director to locate a transfer station for people to park and ride to Tybee. Sean has offered use of the Savannah Visitor Center parking lot. Chantel will continue conversations with CRC and the City of Savannah to see how this program can be implemented.

Paul discussed the meeting Diane, Jonathan and he have had with Chatham County and CAT regarding a shuttle service proposal. Jonathan reviewed the CAT proposal for Labor Day. Jonathan, Diane and Chantel have a meeting with TITC and CAT to discuss the opportunity of shuttles running the day of the Labor Day Fireworks with two pickup locations. Wanda will try to attend as well. CAT has a set price and their cost would be deducted from the total ridership fees collected. The difference would be paid by the TITC if they agree to the proposal. Paul suggested if this service is used for Pirate Fest, the organization could bundle the shuttle fee with their admission fee. Diane confirmed the City would not be involved due to budget constraints and liability. Diane said this is a good program for events because people that may not typically attend because they do not want to drive have this opportunity and it would help alleviate traffic.

II. Review layout of parking spaces in Memorial Park

Joe reported that 35 feet is necessary for straight in, pull in parking. Angled parking requires 25 feet and diagonal parking requires 24 feet. A lot of infrastructure is needed to take care of the drainage issues on the right-hand side. Drainage into the park is not available now. Parking along the street is available. Parking needs to be stable versus grassy and muddy. Joe asked how much money the City wants to put into this area. He will draw a plan with costs and bring it back to the Committee for consideration. The Driveway is 20' wide. The parking spaces add to the beach renourishment and Joe does not want people backing into the spaces. Wanda expressed concern with developing a parking plan while Council is considering the Memorial Park plan. Paul explained that revenue is being lost without a parking plan currently.

III. Review 3rd & 4th of July weekend parking

Bill commended Parking Services on how smooth the weekend went. Wanda said she has received positive comments about the employees that were stationed in congested parking areas directing people. Mary reiterated that she continues to let TIARA know if they want to help with parking, they can help by doing what the additional workers did this weekend. The budget does not allow additional staff, but she will look at possibly increasing staff during big weekends such as she did this past weekend. There were four additional workers for the weekend. Wanda inquired if there were too many employees issuing tickets versus directing traffic. Bill asked Pete how the parking in City right-of-ways went during the weekend. Pete confirmed there were not major issues or complaints. The North Beach area did not expand as anticipated. Discussion ensued about directing people to North Beach parking. Diane confirmed the traffic counts were the highest in years during the week and the weekend.

Mary expressed that the City right-of-way issue still needs to be addressed. Staff has been instructed to enforce the code, but to make a professional judgment call based on their knowledge of the area. Pete stated more signs are not needed. He sees parking happening more orderly than before. Mary and Parking Service Division staff are discussing possible solutions. The committee will revisit if major issues continue to occur.

Diane will survey the hotel parking area on Lovell. She confirmed the Atlantis parking lot is part private and part City.

OLD BUSINESS

I. Review proposed parking decal ordinance

The committee reviewed the ordinance. Paul explained a suggestion made at the Council meeting was to make the ordinance seasonal. Therefore, people could park their trailers during the off season months and it would maximize available parking spaces to Island guest in season. The ordinance should include seasonal restrictions as follows: "Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Code, decals applied to trailers, recreational vehicles, commercial trucks, boat trailers and vans of any type may not be used to authorize parking for more than 24 hours in one parking space from St. Patrick's Day through Labor Day." Paul made a motion that the Committee accepts the rewording of the ordinance and recommend that Council adopt it. Wanda seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Diane will ask Bubba to revise the ordinance for the next Council meeting.

II. Update on Parking Ambassador concept

Chantel reported that the Tybee Island Information Providers program is coming together. The first orientation is today with five interested volunteers. She will meet them near the Tybrisa / Strand Roundabout. She received the final approved version of the Council Policies and Procedures with the required Authorization for Release of Information form from Janice. She has prepared T. I. I. P. policies and procedures as well. All volunteers will be identified by wearing a straw hat and a badge that says "Info Here". They will be carrying a clipboard with information to assist them when they are talking with visitors. Pete wants to make sure they are trained on the Pay and Display stations. Jane and Chantel met about the design of the Information Hut. Craig Harrison drew a design for the message center. Joe and Chantel are meeting later to look at the locations of each.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55am.