

CITY OF TYBEE PARKING COMMITTEE
MINUTES: October 26, 2010

ATTENDEES:

Council representatives: Wanda Doyle, Bill Garbett, Paul Wolff
Staff representatives: Diane Schleicher, Mary Hogan, Chantel Morton, Pete Ryerson,
Joe Wilson, Jennifer Wittendorf

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Paul made the motion to approve the meeting from the last meeting. Wanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

I. Parking Permits for Off-Season Gatherings

Bill suggested that punctuation and letter case be corrected in the policy. Paul recommended that the title "Tybee Island City Manager" should be consistent throughout the document and should reflect "shall not exceed 100 passes per event." Diane explained that governmental vehicles are exempt from paying for parking. Paul made the motion that the policy state "the City Manager may at her / his discretion may waive parking fees for government or educational institutions." Wanda seconded this motion and all approved.

OLD BUSINESS

I. Evaluation Criteria for Free Holiday Parking

Chantel reviewed the survey which will be sent to all businesses to provide feedback. The purpose of the survey is to provide officials with quantifiable information of sales during the period of free holiday parking. Wanda commented that she spoke with a gentleman that came to Tybee last year because of discounted rates and free parking. Bill expressed concern with not having a professional survey. Diane confirmed that this will be the first step towards gathering information at no charge. Parking complaints are mainly people not knowing they have to pay versus the price.

Mary confirmed that two employees are working during December.

Mary explained that if Business License fees were based on Occupational Tax then the information would easily be available and would help with Hotel / Motel tax as well as LOST.

II. Review Parking Signage

Bill suggested that during the off season parking signage be reviewed along the streets where they are not facing traffic. Pete confirmed they do review signage weekly. He expressed 2% of visitors do not see the signs and there is 98% compliance. Tybrisa is the main concern. Meters versus pay to parking stations are less desirable because credit card usage is high and there is less clutter with the stations. Pete presented a stencil that Jennifer designed to paint on curb stops. This will be another effort to increase awareness.

III. Review Parking in Memorial Parking

Pete confirmed that year-to-date from January 1, Memorial Park has taken in \$4,500.00 with a lot of credit card usage. The only problem is that people still need to be sent over to pay even though the area has the best signage. Paul suggested the reservation form have a note about pay to park at Memorial Park. Pete reviewed the cost comparisons to other kiosks as follows: the 14th Street lot kiosk near the Marine Science Center restrooms = \$41,000, 2nd Avenue = \$4,200 (Pete is considering moving), near the crossover = \$14,000, Inlet at Chatham = \$24,000,

boat ramp = \$8,900, fishing pier = \$22,000, 3rd Street = \$14,000 (a lot of credit card usage), Butler at 18th Street = \$17,000 (people line up and pay in right-of-way), 16th – 17th Street = \$34,000.

Joe confirmed that there are 47 straight in parking spaces at Memorial Park. Pete and his staff work with the people using the pavilion. Mary suggested doing the stencil on the curb stops there and confirmed staff is fair and consistent.

IV. Update from Parking Services Staff

Pete updated the committee that staff is dwindling down towards Thanksgiving. Wanda requested confirmation that the meters have been reset to \$1.50. Mary confirmed that the ones that can be reprogrammed have been done. There are approximately 80 – 100 that are obsolete which would need to be replaced. The cost is \$300 a piece for a dual head. Mary confirmed there is some money in the budget and the goal is to fix these by the next busy season. Discussion ensued regarding the return of investment with the least performing locations and replacing or repairing the existing meters. LCD screens are already showing wear and will cost \$1,000 to replace. Paul advised to buy new ones and not repair, if possible, to make revenue.

V. Update and Status of Kiosk

Chantel reported that DPW has moved the kiosk out and are cleaning it up. Jane Coslick is seeking paint donations. Once it is painted, it will be moved to the right of the roundabout near the crossover. The Information Kiosk will be manned by T. I. I. P. volunteers (as available) and parking services will share it. Pete confirmed his staff will provide information as well.

VI. Update on Status and Coastal Regional Coaches Schedule

Chantel reported that CRC is ready to start once the brochure is finalized. The brochure was passed around for the committee to review and Chantel will email it to the committee. The pickup times in Savannah are at 10am and 5pm to start.

Free parking for the holidays will be promoted by replacing the entrance banner, PR, websites, and advertising. Joe expressed his concern that the potential flashing sign should not be used for advertisements and used only for necessary information.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm.