

PARKING COMMISSION MINUTES

October 22, 2015

Attendees: Sara Morris, Eva Horn, Andrew McKenzie, Keah Cunningham, Chris Wallace, Kristi Henderson, Jim Modig, Donna Hultine, Callie Long, and Margretta de Vries.

The meeting was called to order at 3:21 p.m. Everyone introduced themselves.

Chair/Vice Chair

Wallace volunteered to be the chair, seconded by Horn. The commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Horn volunteered to be vice chair.

Committees

Hultine described the functions of the committees and asked everyone to sign up on the sheet that was passed around.

Staff Reports

Parking

Hultine reported that KU Parking & Transit hosted the annual Midwest Campus Parking Association conference, with approximately 90 in attendance; it went very well.

She reported that the transition to the new License Plate Recognition (LPR) system is off to a rocky start due to mountains of data going back and forth between the two software systems. It is getting better every day, and most of these issues will go away if we get everything into a single software.

Hultine reported that there was a Change.org petition due to changes in student parking and the effect of Daisy Hill changes affecting lots 72 and 90. She added that she had also attended a recent SenEx meeting, where concerns about parking were brought up; SenEx offered to help with communication and messaging.

Morris said that she parks in the Mississippi Street Garage, where there are issues with parking; is the new technology ready? de Vries explained that the transponders are in the office but not yet issued to users.

de Vries reported that permit sales are down by almost 700 permits, primarily in red, yellow, and Stouffer Place, which closed in June.

Transit

de Vries reported that ridership numbers are down somewhat at the beginning of the year, and that there was an issue with the new schedule for route 29 that had required an additional vehicle be added back in.

New Business

Central District

Modig gave a short overview of the timeline of the Central District plan and the selection of Edgemoor, a subsidiary of Craig Construction, to complete the development. The project includes a 280,000 sq ft science facility, a new union, a parking garage and surface parking, a 500 bed residence hall, and a 700 bed apartment complex. Strategic and master planning identified a top priority is in construction of

modern construction in the sciences, especially research labs and classrooms, etc. Enrollment has been increasing, with this fall the largest we've had in many years, so there is a shortfall on beds at residence halls and a long waiting list for apartments at Jayhawker Towers; if we build it, the market study says we can more than fill it. Modig showed a video that gives a flyover view of what new development will look like, and said that there will be a third open house, hopefully around the second week of November. There was discussion about the upcoming demolition of McCollum, and Modig shared that Stouffer Place and McCollum have been used for training by local emergency services, educational way to help support us in the future.

There was also discussion about the fact that we will lose parking throughout this process, so it will get very tight before it is improved. The new garage should be complete in Nov 2016, the residence hall by July 2017, and the Integrated Sciences and new union by July 2018. The total cost of this is approximately \$325 million, but there are still several steps to go before it is all approved, including Board of Regents and legislative approvals.

GTA/GRAs in Red Zones

Hultine explained the reasons changes were made, removing yellow parking from lots 52 and 61. Since the beginning of the semester, occupancy counts show 50-60 open spaces in lot 61, and the lowest number of open spaces in lot 52 has been approximately 30.

Based on that, and other feedback, Hultine proposes that we offer grad students who are employed at the university an opportunity to have upgraded parking through a lottery. Wallace asked if they would be limited to only that parking lot; Hultine said yes, and there would be no charge for upgrade. There was discussion about who would receive the offer.

Henderson asked if we are still going to move to assigned lots next year. Hultine said that the idea was to provide a better experience, but is not sure we're there yet. She added that when she spoke with student leadership, they reacted strongly. There was also discussion about how buses don't always work for everyone.

Horn made a motion to make this offer for up to 30 permits in lot 52, and up to 50 permits in lot 61, and then go up by tens later, if space is available. There was discussion about how to determine if a student is employed on campus, because some classifications may not look like employed positions. Morris seconded the motion, and the commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Sorority Parking

de Vries explained that the email was from a dad with a daughter living in Chi Omega sorority. There was discussion about how sororities are private residences, not university housing. No action was taken.

Open Forum

Hultine explained that we hold a forum twice per year, with one in the fall to hear ideas and complaints, and one in the spring when we present proposals. SenEx suggested having a second meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.