

PARKING BOARD
MINUTES
APRIL 4, 2016

A meeting of the Salem Parking Board was held on Monday, April 4, 2016 at 4:30 pm. at 120 Washington Street, Salem, MA. Present were Michael Caggiano, Elysia Alleman, J. P. Story and Rinus Oosthoek. Also present was Assistant Parking Director Alan Sullaway and Finance Director Sarah Stanton.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Story made a motion to approve the minutes of March 7, 2016. Mr. Oosthoek seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion so carried.

2. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON PROPOSED PARKING RATES FOR NEW PARKING SPACES ON BRIDGE STREET LOT ADJACENT TO 50 ST. PETER STREET (FORMER SALEM JAIL)

Ms. Stanton stated that the former A & B Burgers is being taken over by Bitbar, a video game/arcade bar. She stated that one of the main beefs of A & B was that it was difficult to park. While locals know to go to Church Street, the non-locals circle around. The City Council has approved the use of 18 metered spaces in front. It will be a 4 hour maximum and the proposal is a \$1 per hour rate. This will make it expensive enough that there won't be MBTA commuters parking there all day long. We put it by the owners of the proposed Bitbar and they were fine with it. We wanted to bring it here before sending to City Council for adoption. I is currently before the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission for their approval. There is a preliminary schematic design. The hope is that these spaces can be done in next couple months, so we aren't in the same boat that we had with A & B. Our loss was Beverly's gain. We are hopeful that with some good press and the addition of spaces, we are looking at a success. It is currently part grass and part pavement.

Mr. Oosthoek asked if they will be 18 spaces net to the entry road which is there now.

Ms. Stanton replied in the affirmative.

Ms. Alleman asked where entrance will be.

Ms. Stanton replied that it will be from Bridge St. at the current entrance. She stated that Council did the preliminary approval to allow the 18 spaces. It is before the Planning Board for the site and she believed it had to go before the Conservation Commission for an environmental provision.

Mr. Oosthoek stated that it seems that \$1 is even more than the nearby little street. He did not think the train people will park there because the will get tickets after 4 hours.

Mr. Caggiano asked if the members all agreed it would be good to have parking there.

All were in agreement.

Ms. Alleman stated that she lives close by and it can be a kind of tricky intersection. There are a lot of pedestrians and a right on red. She stated that she can see it getting more congested.

Mr. Oosthoek stated that he felt the entrance is far enough from the corner.

Ms. Stanton stated that they are proposing \$1 hour to encourage turnover. She stated that if the Board feels more comfortable with proposing a different rate, she could bring it back to the Mayor for discussion.

Mr. Oosthoek stated that he thought it was higher than everything but Federal Street. He stated that he felt it will get less use except at night. He did not think anyone using the spaces will protest any rate.

Ms. Stanton stated that users will be able to utilize the mobile application.

Mr. Oosthoek asked if it will have the new or the old meters.

Ms. Stanton stated that they may want to reuse some existing kiosks. Because it is so few spaces, she did not know if they want to spend the capital to get meters. Because the City is doing a greater drive to use the park mobile application, it makes sense.

Mr. Oosthoek stated that he had no problem with the proposal.

Mr. Caggiano was in agreement.

Ms. Alleman stated that it feel seems fair. She stated that it is really a two minute walk from garage. Therefore, why not charge people more if they are lazy and don't want to walk two minutes.

MOTION: Ms. Alleman made a motion to approve the proposal to recommend the rate at the 18 spaces be at \$1 per hour. Mr. Story seconded the motion.

Mr. Sullaway stated that he agreed with Ms. Stanton regarding using a kiosk over meters. Even if one can't be reused, to be a new kiosk will be cheaper than 18 new smart meters. The kiosks can still be used with the Passport application.

VOTE: All in favor and the motion so carried.

Ms. Stanton stated that there is no update on the Traffic and Parking Commission. The Mayor, Dominick Pangallo and she put forth a recommendation to create the Commission. The City Council has varying ideas on how it should be composed, how the Commission should be created and what will be their jurisdiction. She and Dominick are information gathering and

looking at communities that have done it more efficiently than others. It is still in committee and she is hopeful that it gets done in the next month or two. She is hoping to get some relief at parking garage for Alan. They are making headway on automation of both garages, so it will no longer be a cash only operation. There will be more of an update in May. This would be more streamlined if we had a Traffic and Parking Commission. We are currently piece-mealing everything together. We have really deviated from the Nygard study in a couple areas. There are many issues that would be so much better served if we had a knighted body on these matters. She stated that we need to also look critically at some of the different ordinances related to parking to accurately reflect what we have.

3. REPORT ON REVENUES

Mr. Sullaway stated that there was no revenue report available.

4. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Sullaway stated that for Riley Plaza, they have 2 posts going up this week on the very far end. He already has signs that say zone 1. They already took out the row of 7 meters and have signs up. They have sold out for April and May including the extra 5 that have now been created. The eleven on the end will not be sold until the signs are up so it can be enforced.

Mr. Caggiano asked if there have been any complaints from the Norman Street condos or Steve's Market.

Mr. Sullaway stated that there have been no complaints at all.

Mr. Oosthoek stated that he still have questions for Planning.

Ms. Guy suggested that Lynn Duncan be emailed.

Mr. Caggiano asked if the monthly guaranteed spaces have all been sold.

Mr. Sullaway stated that in Museum Place, 20 were sold and 20 are available. The ten in the South Harbor were sold right way.

Mr. Oosthoek asked if the reprogramming of the 4 hour meters has happened.

Mr. Sullaway stated that he will have to check with Matt Killen in IT.

Mr. Caggiano asked if Passport has any data that the Board can view.

Mr. Sullaway replied that he will check.

5. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 2, 2016.

There being no further business, Mr. Oosthoek made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Alleman seconded the motion; all were in favor and the motion so carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane A. Guy