



Vehicle Parking District Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

The Vehicle Parking District committee met in the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce board room, 609 W. Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, NE on Wednesday, May 16, at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: *Connie Geary, Lacey Porn, Lisa Blackman, James Wapelhorst, John Stappert, Brad Love*

Guests Present: *Stephanie Bates, Steve Rasmussen, Graham Herbst*

Minutes recorded by: *Jarad Dahlkoetter*

Call to Order:

1. **Welcome** – Geary called the meeting to order at 8:08am; Notice of the opens meeting act was posted.
2. **Attendance** – Dahlkoetter took roll call of attendees.
3. **Approval of minutes** – Love motions to approve minutes from the June 2 meeting. Blackman seconds. Roll call: all yays, no nays, motion carried.

Regular Agenda

1. **Update on Façade and Signage improvement grants awarded** Moved to next agenda.
2. **Discussion on trees, plantings, and cutouts on 4th street.** Geary reported that if the board purchases the trees through Earl May they will plant them for free and have a 2-year warranty. Geary has also contacted multiple businesses to see if they want planters for their business. She also found black planters at Earl May for more businesses downtown.
 - a. Stappert motions to make a purchase of planters for \$160 per planter and reimburse Connie for the planters she purchased. Love Seconds roll call: all yays, no nays, motion carried.
 - b. Wapelhorst motions to purchase trees up to \$2,000.00. Stappert seconds. Roll Call: All yays, no nays, motion carried.
 - c. Steve Rasmussen and Graham Hurst from the Nebraska Forest Service discussed different tree species that would be good for the downtown. They mentioned Norfolk’s downtown is great and everyone has done a great job of maintaining it. Graham mentioned that research shows that when cities have a nice, walkable downtown, people spend 10-12% more time and money there. He also mentioned we should consider large shade trees for downtown because it is more desirable for businesses and downtown façade. Steve mentioned the board should vary the species of trees and downtown tree life expectancy is 12-15 years. The board will take their expertise into opinion when picking out trees for new downtown projects.
3. **Continued discussion on parking policy and enforcement.** Porn motioned to approve up to \$2500 for Love Signs to fix the signs and poles downtown in various parking lots. Roll call: Geary, Porn, Blackman, Wapelhorst, and Stappert voted in the affirmative, Love abstained. Motion carried.
4. **Update on locations of side street planters** Geary has contacted multiple side street businesses and has located homes for some of the planters. She will continue to follow up with more businesses.
5. **Update on original street scape plans and estimated timeline for side street improvements** Moved to future agenda
6. **Discussion on strategic plan: Mission and Vision Statements, future property adjustments, and boundary expansions.** Geary reported that she talked to JEO representatives about Black Hills property also being annexed. After conversing with Black Hills, they have declined to be annexed at this time. She let JEO know to proceed without that property.
7. **Update on planter request from 419 West Norfolk Avenue.** Geary has ordered more planters and will distribute them.

Norfolk Vehicle Parking District

The Vehicle Offstreet Parking District #1 is a special taxing district, encompassing the downtown Norfolk area, created for the purpose of providing and maintaining off-street parking lots for employees and customers of the downtown businesses. The Vehicle Offstreet Parking District #1 is also involved with downtown promotions and beautification.

VPD Board (9 members):

- Connie Geary
- Chad Barnhill 8/2018
- Pat Carney 8/2019
- Brad Love 8/2020
- Lacey Porn 8/2020
- Jessica Gordon 8/2020
- James Wapelhorst 8/2019
- Steve McNally 8/2018
- Brandon Doke 8/2018
- Lisa Blackman (Alt.) 8/2018
- John Stappert (Alt.) 8/2021

Invoices:



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Invoice from the Norfolk Area Chamber for quarterly management Moved to next agenda

Committee Reports

1. Marketing (Barnhill, Love, Wapelhorst)
2. Loans & Recruitments (McNally)
 - a. Update on legal description from JEO
 - b. Discussion on meeting dates and time with HyVee East
3. Beautification (Geary, Porn, Wapelhorst)
 - a. Update on sidewalk cut outs
4. Parking & Traffic (McNally, Carney)

Meeting Adjournment: Love motioned to adjourn at 9:10am

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 6, 2018; Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce Board Room.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jarad Dahlkoetter, Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce