



Vehicle Parking District Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

The Vehicle Parking District committee met in the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce board room, 609 W. Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, NE on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: *Connie Geary, John Stappert, Brad Love, Doug Stebbing, Steve McNally, Pat Carney*

Guests Present: *Stephanie Bates*

Minutes recorded by: *Jarad Dahlkoetter*

Call to Order:

- Welcome** – Geary welcomed guests and called the meeting to order at 8:05 A.M.
- Attendance** – Jarad Dahlkoetter took roll call of attendees
- Approval of minutes** – *McNally motioned, seconded by Stappert to approve the minutes from October 16. Roll call: yays: Geary, Stappert, Love, McNally, & Carney. Nays: none. Motion carried.*

Regular Agenda

- Update on Policy Changes for the Vehicle Parking district** Connie said she will prepare a letter for the city council regarding the following information and Jarad will provide the minutes from when the board approved motions regarding these items.
 - Increasing parking times from 2 hours to 3 hours on the Avenue** Connie said we don't want to go more than 3 hours on parking times, but we need to be aware of people who are spending time at downtown businesses. They don't want to discourage people from shopping. McNally said once this is approved by the City Council the group should organize a town hall meeting to announce the new changes.
 - Adding overnight parking on side streets** McNally said we should include the rules and regulations of parking downtown on the back of the parking tags so people can read and understand them when buying their tag. Doug asked if there was an extra fee for parking on streets at night. Geary said the group wouldn't charge but they needed to make sure to enforce the cars being removed from the side streets at a certain time. McNally said the times at the city were from 6pm to 8am. Geary suggested inviting law enforcement to an upcoming meeting to discuss enforcement.
 - Increasing parking rates** This was previously approved for \$100 for commercial parking spots and \$75 for residential. Steve said the city council had these amounts reversed during their meeting. Doug said the residential and the employees should be the same amount because several employees use theirs overnight. Connie asked if jumping to \$100 was too much at one time. Steve said he thinks this is still a good value for a whole year of parking. Doug suggested making a smaller increase each year. Connie suggested \$80 for this year. Steve said if we improve some of the lighting in lots this year people will see the value immediately.

Norfolk Vehicle Parking District

The Vehicle Off-street 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 Off-street Parking District #1 is also involved with downtown promotions and beautification.

VPD Board (9 members):

- Connie Geary
- Chad Barnhill 8/2021
- Pat Carney 8/2022
- Brad Love 8/2020
- Lacey Porn 8/2020
- Jessica Gordon 8/2020
- James Wapelhorst 8/2022
- Steve McNally 8/2021
- Lisa Blackman (Alt.) 8/2020
- John Stappert (Alt.) 8/2021



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- i. McNally motioned, seconded by Love to increase parking rates on residential and employee spaces to \$80 per year. Roll call: yays: Geary, Stappert, Love, McNally, & Carney. Nays: none. Motion carried.*
2. **Consideration of VPD lot snow piling agreement with ASPM.** Geary will sign the agreement on behalf of the VPD board of directors.
3. **Update on public bidding process for Lot A** Stappert said one of his clients is a company that markets and sells land online and they gave him some questions to ask about the land. Pat suggested the title company would be a great resource when selling this piece of property.
4. **Consideration of proposal from Nebraska Life Magazine** McNally said they need to continue to be front and center with their marketing and this was a good opportunity to promote the downtown during the winter.
 - a. *McNally motioned, seconded by Stappert to approve this ad. Roll call: yays: Geary, Stappert, Love, McNally, & Carney. Nays: none. Motion carried.*
5. **Discussion on broken VPD signs in downtown alleys** Love presented pictures of the large parking lot signs that have been broken or bent on the bottom half. McNally asked if they should just raise the signs up higher so they cannot be hit. Geary asked what height they are now. Stebbing suggested going up by two feet. McNally said maybe we should hold off on ordering new signs before we finalize our plans with the city Council. Geary said after approval, the board should also do a comprehensive look at each lot and make sure the signs are correct and in the correct places. McNally asked if the group has figured out how many residential spots are needed in each block. Geary said it would be helpful to get this information and to split it up by block. The assignments are as follows for gathering this information: Love -100 block, Stappert – 200 block, Geary – 300 block, McNally – 400 block, Stebbing – 500 block, & Geary/Gordon – 700 block. This information will be presented at the next meeting.

Invoices:

Committee Reports

1. Marketing (Barnhill, Love, Wapelhorst) – Lisa Blackman has asked to resign from the board of directors and the board needs to fill her spot. McNally said the group should make sure to pursue representation from people who are downtown and have invested in downtown. Add to next agenda: Nominations for the VPD board position.
2. Loans & Recruitments (McNally)
3. Beautification (Geary, Porn, Wapelhorst) McNally said the downtown should become more dog friendly because of the increase in people living downtown. He asked if we could put up a sign for designated dog areas with signage saying people must pick up after their dog. He said we should get dispensers like Skyview park. Geary said we should pick out several locations and also include garbage cans near them for trash. Moved to next agenda.
4. Parking & Traffic (McNally, Carney)

Consideration for next regular meeting: Wednesday, November 6, 2019 @ 8:00 am

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