



Vehicle Parking District Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

The Vehicle Parking District committee met in the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce board room, 609 W. Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, NE on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: *Connie Geary, John Stappert, Pat Carney, James Wapelhorst, Brad Love, Chad Barnhill, Steve McNally*

Guests Present: *Stephanie Bates, Liz Lienemann, Lyle Lutt*

Minutes recorded by: *Jarad Dahlkoetter*

Call to Order:

1. **Welcome** – Geary called the meeting to order at 8:05 A.M.
2. **Attendance** – Jarad Dahlkoetter took roll call of attendees
3. **Approval of minutes** – *Barnhill motions, seconded by Love to approve the minutes from November 20. Roll Call: Yays: Geary, Stappert, Carney, Wapelhorst, Love, and Barnhill. Nays: none. Motion Carried.*

Regular Agenda

1. **Consideration of resignation of Lisa Blackman from the VPD board of directors** Stappert motioned, seconded by Carney to accept the resignation of Lisa Blackman from the VPD Board of Directors. *Roll Call: Yays: Geary, Stappert, Carney, Wapelhorst, Love, and Barnhill. Nays: none. Motion Carried.*
2. **Consideration of nominations for vacant VPD board of director's position** Bates said she was interested. Stappert is talking to Jodi Ronspies, a new business owner in the downtown. Steve McNally is talking to another business owner. Moved to next agenda.
3. **Update on locations for dog friendly areas** Connie gave an update on what was discussed last meeting. She asked if any board members came up with any locations for dog areas. Jessica said she thinks they need one down by healthy paws because of all the people dropping off their dogs. Chad said there is also another dog area on 4th street across from the Kensington. Carney said once the park gets built that should include a spot for pets also. Gordon asked if we can attach some of the doggie bag things to trash cans along the avenue. Connie said that might be a good thing to do – attach one on each side of the block on every block. Lyle said he would look into the cost and bring it to the next meeting.
4. **Update on Downtown Christmas Festival** Jessica said everything is going great. She invited the VPD board of directors included Lyle and Stephanie to participate in the tree lighting ceremony this year. She asked them to arrive at 7:20 and Jarad would introduce them before the ceremony.
5. **Information on a possible new event during the summer in downtown** Jarad presented about a new downtown event opportunity to the VPD board that was presented to a small group of stakeholders from a company called Downtown Events. This event would be a 6-week run of concerts that includes shutting down a downtown city block and having a beer garden and family friendly area. Jessica did some follow up from the previous meeting with the Downtown Events Representative. She reached out to Chadron, Alliance, and Kearney who have also used this company and reported what she found. Jarad reported that this event would boost retail sales throughout the avenue. Lacey said we need a downtown employee to run events like these. Barnhill asked if

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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the beer revenue could pay for this person. He also asked to be included in the next meeting with the Downtown Events company. Carney also asked if the Chamber could possibly be a helper in this event. Connie said we could save up for a couple years from this event to eventually hire a downtown position. James asked if this is a position the city of Norfolk should be looking into. Jarad and Lacey will lead a subcommittee to explore this opportunity.

Invoices:

Committee Reports

1. Marketing (Barnhill, Love, Wapelhorst)
2. Loans & Recruitments (McNally)
3. Beautification (Geary, Porn, Wapelhorst)
4. Parking & Traffic (McNally, Carney)

First City Council discussion on the VPD letter of recommendation will occur on December 2 at 5:30pm. Lyle recommended several board members be there. McNally, Wapelhorst, and Geary will be in attendance.

Consideration for next regular meeting: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 @ 8:00 am

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