



Vehicle Parking District Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 7, 2019

The Vehicle Parking District committee met in the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce board room, 609 W. Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, NE on Friday, August 7, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: *Doug Stebbing, Connie Geary, Jessica Gordon, James Wapelhorst, Brad Love, John Stappert, Chad Barnhill*

Guests Present: *Scott Adams, Stephanie Bates, Lyle Lutt*

Minutes recorded by: *Jarad Dahlkoetter*

Call to Order:

- Welcome** – Geary welcomed guests and called the meeting to order at 8:05 A.M.
- Attendance** – Dahlkoetter took roll call of attendees
- Approval of minutes** – *Love Motioned, seconded by Gordon to approve the minutes from July 17 with the following change: Geary would like discussion under agenda item 5 to read “The report also reported 1,101 daily users including private parking.” Roll Call: Yays: Geary, Gordon, Wapelhorst, Love, and Barnhill. Nays: none. Motion Carried.*

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 8/2021
- Pat Carney 8/2019
- Brad Love 8/2020
- Lacey Porn 8/2020
- Jessica Gordon 8/2020
- James Wapelhorst 8/2019
- Steve McNally 8/2021
- Lisa Blackman (Alt.) 8/2020
- John Stappert (Alt.) 8/2021

Regular Agenda

- Update on request to Fischer Tree Service:** Wapelhorst presented two quotes to the board from 2 different companies for tree trimming downtown. The quotes were from Fischer Tree Service and Olson’s Tree Service and included approx. 70 Locust and Maple trees in the downtown. Geary also said they needed to include taking out the tree in front of the Norfolk Daily News. After receiving a call from their staff, she asked someone to look at the tree, and that person suggested it was infested and wouldn’t survive. The board chose Olson’s tree service to complete the work with the addition of the tree in front of the Daily News.
 - Barnhill motioned, seconded by Wapelhorst to accept Olson’s bid with the addition of taking down the dying tree in front of the Norfolk Daily News. Roll Call: Yays: Geary, Gordon, Wapelhorst, Love, and Barnhill. Nays: none. Motion Carried.*
- Update on ordering downtown banners** Lacey Porn asked the board via email if someone would be willing to take on this task. Jessica Gordon volunteered to get quotes on new signs for the board to review.
- Update on RFP Process for 2019-2020 snow removal** Lutt said he took the previous snow removal bid sheet and changed the information to reflect the current year. He said once it is finalized, he will forward it to the VPD board. Lutt also said the bid sheet doesn’t include a date for return or a map of the lots yet. He also asked the board if they wanted to include a savings for a multi-year deal in the RFP. The board will review at the next meeting.
- Input on downtown parking report for presentation to the City council** Connie said she arranged a meeting with a City Council subcommittee from 7:00 – 8:00 A.M. on Tuesday, August 13 and all board members were invited. During the last meeting, she presented a packet of information to go over with the City Council. During this meeting, she wanted the boards final input on the presentation.



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Stebbing voiced concerns about making all the signs the same color and wanted to make sure they added “2-hour parking limit” to signs. In addition, Barnhill suggested the board also consider enforcing the parking policy at night with more night life venues coming to downtown. Geary suggested both of these topics would be better for discussion after they get the policy changes approved.

Gordon said it is very clear they need to get ahead of the parking needs that are coming to the downtown soon. Geary said people have expressed interest in more night life for several years and now it is coming. Geary also mentioned the city engineers are working on the addition diagonal parking on the North side of Madison Avenue and that will add more parking. Geary said the board’s goal is to help these businesses be successful, so they stick around for years to come.

The board approved of the presentation to the City Council with 5 main bullet points, including overselling parking in all downtown lots by 20 percent. A summary of this meeting will be presented at the next meeting.

Committee Reports

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

Consideration for next regular meeting: August 21, 2019 @ 8:00 am

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