

Transportation Services Advisory Committee

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF MEETING

October 23, 2007

ATTENDEES: Sheila Amos
Cheryl Hanks
Cindy Havner
Dr. Dave Parrott
Lauren Barron designee for Tyler Koch
Ruth Mullins
Dr. Joe Newton
Mr. John Summers
Rich Pontious
Robert Pottberg
Dr. Angie Hill Price
John Summers
Rod Weis
Dr. Mike Messina
Mike Caruso
Dr. Alan Love

ABSENT: Dr. Mike Messina
Dr. Howard Kaplan

GUESTS: Jo Williams
Doug Williams
June Broughton
Debbie Hoffmann
Rose Berryhill

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

1.1 Angie Hill Price called to order

2.0 Business

2.1 Proposed process for discussion and approval of parking and transit fees

2.1.1 Discussed the proposed process. Requested input from the committee

2.1.1.1 How do you contact new faculty and staff

2.1.1.1.1 Faculty parking is coordinated through the Dean of Faculties office by the departmental parking representative

2.1.1.1.2 Departmental Parking Representatives are stationed through-out the campus and coordinate with Transportation Services. Committee members reported that the plan works well

2.1.1.2 Are we going to share this process with the campus community

2.1.1.2.1 Certainly the process will be shared once it is approved

2.1.1.3 The TS Advisory Committee needs to help Transportation Services get the information out to employees

- 2.1.1.4 send informational copy of proposed fees to Student Senate, Faculty Senate, Staff Council, and Graduate Student Council in addition to Student Fee Committee
 - 2.1.1.4.1 Adjustments will be made to the process and it will be presented at the next meeting in November for final approval.
- 2.1.1.5 Dr. Angie Price-Hill would like to finalize the changes next month; the committee to send the proposed process along with a letter of submittal, through Lallah Howard and Sue Redman to the president to formalize the process

- 2.1.2 Discussed the possibility of students using the Central Campus Garage for free after 5pm; student requesting because of safety, working late nights in the library.
 - 2.1.2.1 Request needs to be reviewed on how it will affect
 - 2.1.2.1.1 permit holder; primary goal is to protect the permit holder
 - 2.1.2.1.2 department revenues; change(s) must be revenue neutral
 - 2.1.2.1.3 need to investigate if the equipment can be programmed
 - 2.1.2.1.4 rules and identify fines
 - 2.1.2.1.4.1 can the officers check garages 3-5 am; offices make a note in the handhelds, check during the day on the vehicles, if they are still in the garage they will be removed?
 - 2.1.2.1.4.2 Majority of students willing to follow rules; this would make access to the area easier for them
 - 2.1.2.1.5 Maybe a pilot program is possible for this spring; then bring the results back to this group for recommendations
 - 2.1.2.2 Transportation Services will gather information and report the findings at the next meeting
 - 2.1.2.3 Library gathering data; Rick Pontious will bring the data to the next TSAC meeting

- 2.1.3 Bicycle Program
 - 2.1.3.1 Dr. Angie Price Hill requested that a Sub Committee be formed; does not have to be only committee members. Any thoughts from the TSAC committee?
 - 2.1.3.2 To review task force recommendations and to develop implementation plan especially considering costs, then vet through president; needs to be taken to CBE so facilities can be considered for new construction
 - 2.1.3.3 Membership thoughts?
 - 2.1.3.3.1.1 Student organization whose primary goal is to help students secure bikes - Bike Safe
 - 2.1.3.3.1.2 Some student senators have expressed interest
 - 2.1.3.3.1.3 Graduate students with really strong interests
 - 2.1.3.3.1.4 Should have some representation from TSAC
 - 2.1.3.3.1.5 Ruth Mullins volunteered to serve; stated that Clint McGill might would help
 - 2.1.3.3.1.6 Rich Pontious agreed to be on the committee
 - 2.1.3.3.1.7 Rod Weis has several faculty members who have expressed interest
 - 2.1.3.3.1.8 Security and safety awareness (EHS) committee member
 - 2.1.3.3.1.9 UPD representative
 - 2.1.3.3.1.10 Transportation Services should have representation
 - 2.1.3.3.1.11 Council of Build Environment representative; parking for bikes and number of bike racks needed for new building
 - 2.1.3.3.1.12 Who has governance on gators and golf carts; invite someone from Physical Plant and UPD to discuss bike, golf cart and gator enforcement/ parking on sidewalks

- 2.1.3.4 Need a Strategic plan for bikes
 - 2.1.3.4.1.1 Action plan
 - 2.1.3.4.1.2 Look at the final Task Force report
 - 2.1.3.4.1.3 Information needs to go to the Council of Built Environment – need to include bike facilities with new buildings
- 2.1.3.5 Discuss auctioning bikes at the beginning of the school year
- 2.1.3.6 Need a mandatory registration process for bicycles
- 2.1.3.7 Need staff; funding for the staff
- 2.1.3.8 TSAC member need to submit names to Rod Weis; Rod will share with Dr. Angie Price Hill; they will send names of appointees to committee

- 2.1.4 Transit Fee
 - 2.1.4.1 Rod Weis presented information on the opportunity to purchase 46 new RTS-Nova Buses
 - 2.1.4.1.1 The 46 buses will replace the 19 old Thomas Buses
 - 2.1.4.1.2 Student Senate Executive Communications Committee met with 500 student and informally surveyed them – 80% approval rate for a \$10 increase in transit fee
 - 2.1.4.1.2.1.1 Student Senate endorsed the \$10 increase;
 - 2.1.4.1.2.1.2 Graduate Student Council will vote next week
 - 2.1.4.1.2.1.3 Part of the fee will increase student driver wages
 - 2.1.4.1.2.1.4 Buses will be on campus and actually be put in place this academic year; before the fee is in place
 - 2.1.4.1.3 New buses will reduce current maintenance cost; aid overloaded routes; add additional service for students
 - 2.1.4.1.4 Would like the committee’s support
 - 2.1.4.1.4.1 Rod will draft a letter of support from TSAC concerning the purchase

Other Topic(s):

Tasks to be completed;

1. Committee members will send names to Rod Weis and Dr. Angie Price Hill to serve on the Bicycle Sub-Committee
2. Rose will send projected meeting dates to the group
3. Rod Weis will make changes to the fee process per our discussion and send to committee members
4. Dr. Angie Price Hill and Rod Weis will draft a letter of support for the transit fee increase
5. Suggested agenda items for future meetings;
 - a. Free Parking in the Central Campus Garage at night; Rich Pontious will provide October counts from Library and the Annex
 - b. Approval of Bicycle Sub Committee
 - c. Visitor parking, especially in/near Northside Garage
 - d. Impact of development on existing lots

MEETING ADJOURNED