

Transportation Services Advisory Committee

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF MEETING

January 22, 2009

ATTENDEES: Dr. Angie Hill Price
Mike Caruso
Hunter Bollman
Lallah Howard
Dr. Sherry Yennello for Dr. Joe Newton
Beth McNeill
Rosie Schoenfeld
Rod Weis
Logan Nichols
Robert Pottberg
Brandy Kosh for Cheryl Hanks
Ann Wallingford
David Bierling
Dr. Dave Parrott

ABSENT: Dr. Howard Kaplan
Dr. Alan Love
Sheila Amos
Leah Flores

GUESTS: June Broughton
Doug Williams
Rose Berryhill
Peter Lange
Debbie Hoffmann

1.1 Welcome

- 1.1.1 Dr. Price called the meeting to order
- 1.1.2 Dr. Price requested that the committee review the minutes from the December 3rd meeting.
 - Asked the committee members for corrections
 - None noted
 - Mike Caruso made a motion to approve the minutes
 - Hunter Bollman 2nd the motion; all voted in favor to accept the December 3, 2008 minutes

2.0 Business

2.1 Vehicles parking close to buildings

- 2.1.1 Dr. Price told the committee her concerns with vehicles parking near buildings when they could be utilizing a business space

- 2.1.2 Dr. Parrott asked if we could maybe partner with other with similar concerns regarding suspect vehicles with the ability to have unfettered access to park close to buildings
- unsafe could cause pedestrian conflicts
 - terroristic threats is a real concern for university campuses
- 2.1.3 Dr. Price asked the committee if this was a Transportation Issue; could it be a UPD issue
- 2.1.4 Lallah Howard stated that she would approach the concern with Philip Ray to see if he can begin to add information about driving/parking on campus to contracts with outside vendors

2.2 **University Vehicles/Trailers parking in lots**

- 2.2.1 Rod Weis requested for Peter to explain the concerns with lot 70
- Peter Lange informed the committee that the reason the lot 70 topic has surfaced is because drivers of university vehicles have found the lot to be more accessible to their buildings. Parking university vehicles in a lot with one to one permits keeps the permit holder from finding space to park. We do have other lots that these vehicles can park in that will not affect the permit holders. It causes it to be a philosophical issue on which vehicle is more important. Transportation Services bases permit sells in the area for the number of employees.
 - Dr. Price asked if Transportation Services could mark a couple of spaces in the lot as University Business and remove the lot from the university business map.
 - Dr. Yennello asked where can the university vehicles park?
 - 2.2.1..1They can park in 64, 61, possible 72 as alternatives
 - 2.2.1..2Have you tried asking them
 - 2.2.1..2.1.1We did, we sent them an email, no response
 - Committee members asked if we should make all small lots across the board as no longer being business lots
 - Members agreed that implementing a 2 hour limit for all UB parking would help to change the mindset of how people and vehicles park
 - Dr. Yennello recommended changing the rule for university vehicles permits that they are not guaranteed renewal if employee demands grow, the university/state vehicle may be moved to the next available lot; university vehicles should be our last priority
 - Dr. Price asked the committee if we should consider fixing lot 70 today and not the whole system
 - 2.2.1..1Need a short term and long term solution – short term: put up signs for UB parking in lot 70 and end the business privileges in the entire lot

2.2.1..2Dr. Price asked for a motion as a short term fix, to allow Transportation Services to put up signs on 2 or 3 spaces for 2 hour university business parking in lot 70; and end the business privileges in the entire lot

2.2.1..3Robert Pottberg made a motion to remove lot 70 from university business designation but to add three designated business spaces with 2 hour limit;

2.2.1..3.1.1Hunter Bollman seconded the motion

2.2.1..3.1.2The committee voted in favor; all approved

- Rod stated that Transportation Service would develop a university vehicle permit policy – low cost, possibly match it the business permit price

2.2.1..1Include time limits that make sense – not 2 hour across the board

2.2.1..2Committee asked for Transportation Services to include golf carts, gators in the UV program

2.2.2 Pedestrian Safety

- Rod stated his concern for pedestrian safety. He is meeting with John Salsman on this topic next week.

2.2.2..1Dave Parrott stated that the campus community has a philosophy that “when I walk across the street everybody stops; and it is evolving into the way affiliates drive too”. He felt that the university needed to be proactive and due diligence to study it and make recommendations.

2.2.2..1.1.1 He also stated that there have been a number of accidents between cyclists and pedestrians in the Passaway

2.2.2..1.1.2 Lallah Howard suggested that maybe the Student Government Association of TSAC could send letters to the president to request a committee and initiative

2.2.2..1.1.3 Dr. Parrot felt what is needed is a quick gathering of people with authority, who can take action

2.2.2..1.1.4 Hunter suggested that no one will ever stop the pedestrian from crossing in the middle of blocks but felt that we could raise the awareness using the Battalion and sending short mass emails

2.2.2..1.1.5 Dr. Price stated that the students don't know that they don't have the right of way

2.2.2..1.1.6 Mike Caruso stated an awareness campaign initiated by students would be a good avenue for student leadership

2.2.2..1.1.7 Brandy Kosh felt that we should include in the awareness campaign the "Aggie Courtesy" and also include the speed of vehicles

2.2.2..1.1.8 Dr. Parrott recommended finding another university campus where this issue has been addressed and to follow their model

2.2.2..1.1.9 Logan stated that student's don't care; we can send emails but they are not going to listen if it is not enforced

2.2.2..1.1.10 Dr. Price stated for their safety at least get it out there, "you don't have the right of way"

2.2.2..1.1.11 Dr. Price asked if the students could get a short email from Mark Gold

Hunter stated that he would draft a one paragraph message, send it to Rod and Angie for review, and then forward the email distribution request to Mark Gold

Lallah Howard stated that she would also speak with Jason Cook; requesting that Dr. Murano send something out on pedestrian safety

2.2.2..2 Rod stated that he is also concerned; even with the reminders to the students by the transit drivers. The drivers remind passengers about unloading and walking in front of the bus

3.0 Other Business

3.1 Dr. Price requested for the committee to send issues to Rose that they would like to see addressed, over the course of the spring and summer semesters

3.2 Rod asked Rose about the future meeting dates

3.2.1 Rose requested a day recommendation from the committee members for the months of February-May

- Most members felt that Thursday meetings would be best
- Rose stated that she would get the meetings arranged and send out the meeting requests

3.3 Ann Reber will assist with para student ridership rules

4.0 Meeting adjourned

Other Topic(s):

Tasks to be completed;

1. Para Transit Rules
 - a. Guest Anne Reber
2. Recommendations from Committee Members on Construction Permit Parking Fees
3. Transportation Services will make a plan for parking for university vehicles, electric vehicles, gators or golf carts
4. Standard Policy for visitor/client parking spaces
 - a. Some departments pay for spaces, other do not
 - b. If all pay, what should be the rate
5. Visitor Validation Process

Next Transportation Services Advisory Committee meeting: February 22, 2009 at 11:30 am in Koldus, Room 110-111