

TSAC Minutes
March 4, 2015
Room 301 Rudder Tower, 11:30 am

Present:

Mr. Mike Caruso
Mr. Joe Dillard
Mr. David Glockzin
Dr. Angie Hill Price
Ms. Robbie Lukeman
Dr. Beth McNeill
Mr. Michael Murtha
Mr. Robert Pottberg
Ms. Flora Reeves
Dr. Bob Strawser
Mr. Travis Walters
Mr. Lorenzo Washington
Dr. CJ Woods

Guests:

Mr. Brian Bochner
Ms. Madeline Dillard
Ms. Debbie Hoffmann
Mr. Kenny Kimball
Ms. Therese Kucera
Dr. Tim Lomax
Ms. Jolene Sears

Absent:

Dr. Deb Banerjee
Dr. Fuller Bazer
Dr. Margaret Hobson
Mr. Peter Lange
Mr. Chris Lyons
Dr. Joe Newton
Ms. Veronica Sprayberry
Mr. Rod Weis

1. Dr. Angie Hill Price called the meeting to order and asked members to review the minutes from February's meeting. Mr. Travis Walters motioned to approve the minutes as written, Ms. Flora Reeves seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.
2. Ms. Therese Kucera, Customer Service Manager for Transportation Services, presented information about Retiree Permits. She showed the information from our website which gives specifics on retiree permits. Currently, retirees are able to get a complimentary permit to allow them to park in certain lots and garages on campus; this isn't included as part of a University requirement, it is something we offer in appreciation of their service.
 - 2.1. If retirees return to work part time, there are designated parking in lots and garages for which they are eligible to purchase a half price permit.
 - 2.2. Currently, we have 1,174 Retiree Permits issued.
 - 2.3. There is some abuse of Retiree Permits, mostly retirees whose spouses use the permits to park for work and loaning to grandchildren, etc. to park for class. We

- have had several instances of retiree permits being misused in the garages, resulting in lost revenue. When this occurs, we send a letter to the Retiree Permit holder and advise them their permit will be revoked if not used properly.
- 2.4. Ms. Kucera showed how other universities manage retiree parking and there is a variety of ways it is handled. Some offer no reduction in the cost of a permit, while others offer a permit to allow parking in remote lots only.
 - 2.4.1. Mr. Mike Caruso suggested getting information from other universities that are similar in size and student population.
 - 2.4.2. Dr. Hill Price agreed and said that if a change is proposed, we should compare "apples to apples". She also asked if there is a way to gauge the number of permits that are actually used. We can only gather reports from the garage facilities, and can't confirm the usage in lots.
 - 2.4.3. There is a Faculty retiree group which meets monthly and we could take our concerns to them to get input and if changes are made, to get the word out.
 - 2.4.4. Mr. Caruso suggested that permits could allow access to lots only, not garages to quell abuse.
 - 2.4.5. It was stated that access to University Center Garage should be kept as an option, since so many events occur in Rudder and the MSC.
 - 2.4.6. Dr. CJ Woods suggested citing examples of abuse in the mailer that goes to retirees with their permits, to further encourage the proper usage.
 - 2.4.7. Ms. Kucera said the information states "For Use by Retiree Only" but we could definitely add something additional, possibly on bold colored paper, to get the point across.
 - 2.5. Ms. Debbie Hoffmann asked Dr. Hill Price to send contact information for the head of the faculty retiree group. Future FYI, we have concerns with UB Permit abuse and will need input on that as well.
3. Ms. Kucera reported that since we finalized the wording to be added to signs in some lots to clarify night permit hours, we have added the verbiage to some signs. Lots 18, 73 and 98 are older white signs which are on schedule to be replaced in our efforts to make all signs on campus uniform. Since they won't be replaced in the very near future, we went ahead and added the verbiage to the white signs.
 - 3.1. Dr. Hill Price commended us for our visibility and clarity on our signs after visiting a neighboring university at night.
 - 3.2. Mr. Michael Murtha said he thinks the additional information will translate well to the student body.
 4. Ms. Madeline Dillard, Assistant Director over Transit Services, reported that we have been accepting Brazos Transit ID's since 2/16 and have asked riders to show their ID when boarding off campus routes. We are not refusing service to anyone who doesn't have an ID, we are providing them with information on how to obtain a Brazos Transit pass if they need one.
 - 4.1. While we don't have numbers on how many Brazos Transit pass holders are riding, BTD has reported "a lot" of people purchasing passes at their office.
 - 4.2. We will always allow parents with a student, and children with a parent who has an ID.

- 4.2.1. Dr. Hill Price asked what will happen when the same person tries to ride without an ID repeatedly. Ms. Dillard said we will provide them with the information, then send a supervisor to the area if the person continues to be non-compliant.
 - 4.2.2. Dr. Woods asked if we are training drivers in communication styles to handle the situation. Ms. Dillard said that with the restriction in time for drivers with required training, differing class schedules, etc., we haven't specifically had training in this regard.
 - 4.2.3. Dr. Hill Price asked if there is a possibility of sending an email targeted directly to faculty and staff who may only ride occasionally. We can send a message, either through an email distribution or through the data from our system.
 - 4.2.4. Mr. Walters asked if there are future plans to charge Blinn students who ride for free. Ms. Hoffmann said we have been in communication with the administration at Blinn and they are receptive to paying for our service or possibly purchasing buses.
 - 4.3. Ms. Dillard shared that the application has been submitted to the Texas Mobility Fund to purchase 60 buses over 3 years. If we don't get the state funding, there is other funding still available.
5. Mr. Tim Lomax addressed the change for next year in Get to the Grid staging, which will be held at Veteran's Park in College Station. He said the city is wanting to be a true partner and is even talking about adding 700+ spaces to the 1200 already there. He also said the City of Bryan has volunteered the surface lot at City Hall so that if a shuttle goes from Bryan to Kyle Field, the spaces in front of the businesses won't be unavailable for a long time period.
 - 5.1. Dr. Woods asked if there will be police and assistance in parking. Yes, we will provide staff to man the park and help direct traffic.
 - 5.2. Mr. Caruso asked if there will be traffic control for patrons leaving and turning south on Highway 6. Ms. Dillard and Dr. Lomax said we are still in the very early planning stages and have not worked out those details.
6. Ms. Hoffmann reported Peter Lange will be going before Faculty Senate Executive Committee to discuss a permit price increase for next year.
 - 6.1. Mr. Kenny Kimball said the main driver of the increase is definitely the building of garages, not the possibility of Transportation Services taking over the maintenance of streets and sidewalks.
7. After a brief discussion of the location of the next meeting, which will be held at the Equine Complex on April 1, the meeting was adjourned at 12:44 pm.