

Transportation & Parking Committee (TPC)
February 17, 2017 Minutes
Alternative Transportation Center Conference Room

Present: Mac Babb, Virgilio Centeno, Bo Frazier, Annabelle Fuselier, Debbie Greer, Austin Hannon, Bruce Harper, Andi Ogien, Pam Tate, Tami Watson

Excused: Jeri Baker, John Bartos

Guest: April Williams

AGENDA

Announcement of approval of December 2016 minutes

Meeting minutes were approved by e-mail.

Parking and Transportation Update

Bo F. gave an overview of Parking and Transportation budget. Parking services is a true auxiliary meaning no funding from the state. The budget comes from parking permits, citations, and special events (e.g. Moss Arts Center parking). There are two garages - Perry Street and North End Center. Bo led a discussion about expenses (debt service, salary, maintenance projects, administrative fees, etc.) and revenues (permits, citations, special events). This included FY15 through FY18. Details about snow removal and maintenance projects (garage washing, paving lots, paint striping and sealing cracks) costs were explained in regards to what is budgeted. Revenues used to pay for maintenance was explained. Revenues do not meet needs so there is a reserve draw to cover expenses.

Virginia Tech Police Department Update

No report at this time

New Business

Austin H. requested information about the drone policy, and expressed concern regarding lack of SGA participation. The chair reported that Commission on University Support was aware of requests for SGA representation. Mac B., who is participating on the drone policy team, explained the public safety emphasis of the policy team, and provided information about salient issues such as the FAA drone ban/no fly zone associated with the Montgomery Regional Airport.

Constituent Reports

No reports at this time

Questions and Comments

What is the cost of snow removal?

Snow removal is contracted out with Valley Landscaping.

How long ago was the contract reviewed?

During this process, the contract was renegotiated because the cost was going to be greater than the projected budget. Negotiations were successful to reduce the cost by 25%.

Is there not any central funding to help with snow removal?

There is no central funding. It is paid by Parking Services.

Have permit sales remained steady?

They have stayed fairly steady. A decrease occurred approximately 3 years ago. Permit sales are projected by how much has sold in the past.

What do the following mean?

C/G – commuter grad, VBC – vendor business contract

Why are there not permanent hangtags?

How much do hangtags cost? Permits have RFID chips embedded in them and this would not be feasible for permanent tags. The life span and weather does not permit permanent tags. The cost for permits is around \$45,000.

Pam explained the possibility of license plate recognition and explained that this is being investigated.

A stakeholder asked about the \$5 daily permit.
Bo explained that there are meters near most building locations.

Austin mentioned issues with meters not accepting change. Bo explained that he could call parking and they will check and adjust time to have it operating properly. Pam mentioned that slowing down to put change will help this issue. PCI is not an option for parking because of compliance standards. PCI is the University not Parking Services. Pay by phone may be an option. It is being explored.

Patricia Williams via email asked a question related to the additional charge for motorcycle/scooter and paying an additional fee for using a vehicle that requires less fuel. This might be something Parking and Transportation can consider. Is this information correct?

Bo explained that this is not correct. A scooter can be added to the permit. Purchasing a device to have your hangtag locked to the scooter is the responsibility of the user and it allows for use of parking permit. If they do not want to do then they can add a sticker to their vehicle, which has a \$15 charge associated.

If you get another vehicle, do you have to go into the office? You do not have to go in you can scan the registration. Students do have to go into the office. Faculty and staff do not, a scan is sufficient and send to parking e-mail.

Is there any charge for bikes?
No

Next Meeting Date

The committee will reconvene on March 22, 2017.

Adjourn

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Annabelle F. and seconded by Tami W.

Respectfully submitted,
Annabelle Fuselier Recorder