

Ad Hoc Harwich Port Parking Committee
Small Meeting Room – 732 Main Street, Harwich
Tuesday, February 19, 2019 – 10:30 am
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Alexander Donoghue (Resident Member), John Mahan (Resident Member), Cyndi Williams (HCC Executive Director) and Charleen Greenhalgh (Town Planner)

Member Absent: Mike Ulrich (Business Member)

Others Present: Bob Cohn, Ralph Porter.

Call to Order at 10:30 am by Mr. Donoghue. He notified the audience that as required by law, the Town may audio or video record this meeting. Any person intending to either audio or video record this open session is required to inform the chair.

OLD BUSINESS – The meeting minutes were held to the next meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss exploring new partners for shared parking – Ms. Williams has reached out to some of the private parking areas. Nightly parking is okay at one of the banks and she is waiting to hear from the other bank. She is moving down the street (Route) to have conversations with business owners. This year’s walking map will include locations on where parking will be allowed, particularly in the evening hours. Mr. Donoghue asked about the parking behind the newest building in Harwich. The parking was perceived as being public; however, per Ms. Williams it is not a public lot. Cranberry Liquors and the Real Estate and Insurance Offices, located on either side of the property each have parking on the sides of the new lot. The remaining spaces are for the use of the new building and the residential units.

Discuss time-frame for lining parking lot at Harbormaster’s building – Mr. Donoghue thanked Mrs. Greenhalgh for preparing a draft layout of the parking, which would accommodate approximately 35 spaces. The idea is not to remove any trees. Ms. Williams suggested that this would have to go to the Board of Selectmen to find out when and if the spaces can be painted. Discussion about types of spaces parallel vs. perpendicular. Spaces for the conservation area may need to be designated. Would signage be necessary for limiting parking to employees and the conservation area? How would employee vehicles be identified in the parking lot. Hanging placards perhaps. Is this parking area going to become desirable for other to parking in? It was thought perhaps for vehicle parking for bicyclist, but it would need to be limited to employees and for conservation parking.

Discuss use of portable “No Parking” signs for Pleasant Street – This would be useful particularly on event nights. Mr. Donoghue asked Mr. Cohn to come forward, asking him when parking occurs. Mr. Cohn said that the landscapers mostly use the road for parking, with occasional parking by visitors to homes along Pleasant Street. He rarely sees beach parking along the street. The desire is not to impede the use of the street by the residents. On Wednesday evenings, the south side is marked for parking with no parking on the north side. This should continue.

Mr. Cohn raised concerns about the shared parking. Ms. Williams stated that many people reach out before coming to the Wednesday night events to find out where to park. He also brought up enforcement on shared lots and compensation to those lots willing to share parking. Ms. Williams stated that the shared parking is a good will gesture on behalf of the businesses. Mr. Mahan suggested that the

overnight parking and the enforcement is a wait and see; regarding the signage, it is going to be education for people on where to park and when.

Per Mr. Donoghue, the police would determine when a vehicle should get ticketed. There are events or circumstances when a vehicle needs to have been parking overnight. Mr. Mahan suggested providing a map to folks when they pick up there beach/transfer station permits.

Mr. Donoghue asked about the Town lot and if there any thought about a parking lot kiosk at the Schoolhouse lot. Ms. Williams and Mrs. Greenhalgh had discussed this. Ms. Williams has reached out to retailers to find out pricing. This will be further discussed at the next meeting. Mr. Donoghue spoke to one type of system he found on line. A brief discussion ensued. Whether kiosks be a good idea for the beach parking was another brief discussion.

Discuss date for review of Final Report and submission date – Mr. Donoghue stated that time will be needed for this Committee to get a report to the Selectmen with adequate time for Selectmen to take action. Work towards an April 16th meeting with Selectmen. Next meeting for committee will be March 6th, with Mrs. Greenhalgh will work on the draft report and she will reach out to John Rendon regarding when boats will be removed from the old Harbormasters shop.

Discuss time-line for businesses to provide us with final numbers of employees utilizing lot and employee work schedules – for coordination with proposed transportation: Ms. Williams will be meeting with merchants on March 5th and will provide an update at the next meeting.

Future Meeting dates: March 6, 2019 (Wednesday), March 19, and March 26th.

The meeting adjourn 11:25 am on a motion from Mr. Mahan, seconded by Mrs. Greenhalgh, so voted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charleen Greenhalgh
Adopted: 3/6/19